Finite element analysis of cell subjected to compressive loading

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Finite Element Analysis of cell subjected to compressive loading

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Thesis submitted to the
College of Engineering and Mineral Resources
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in
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Abstract

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Vidhyashankar Venkatesan

A 3D finite element model was built to study the mechanical response of the cell to load. The model included major structural components of a cell like cytoskeletal elements, cell membrane and the presence of internal fluid pressure. The cell was considered as a pressurized, fluid filled bag where inflation of the cell membrane is resisted by the cytoskeletal elements. The behavior of the cell model with microtubules prone to buckling and stabilized by actin filaments was also studied.

A point load was applied to a microtubule in a cell model with there buckling effect taken into consideration. The microtubule started to buckle at around 54.5 PN. A parametric analysis was performed to study the effect of each structural component on overall stiffness of cell measured in terms of modulus. This study showed microtubules and internal fluid pressure were important elements in determining the overall stiffness of the cell.
This thesis is dedicated to B apu and M otima
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Chapter 1: Introduction

1.1 Biomechanics of Human joints

Man is involved in various kinds of physical activities everyday like walking, running, jumping, lifting, etc., Biomechanics is the science that estimates the mechanical forces and moments on various tissue in our body as a result of these activities.

Biomechanics uses the principal of kinetics to study the various kinds of forces and their reactions on various orthopedic joints like knee, spine, shoulder, foot, etc., and also tissues like bone, cartilage, ligament, tendons etc., Various activities result in different kinds of forces acting on joints like push, pull, twist etc., These forces and reactions are represented in terms of vector components that can be broken down into normal and shear force.

The focus on the hip joint is shown in Fig-1 [1].

Figure 1 A biomechanics of a hip in single legged stance.

Figure1 from Buckwalter et al., [1] $F_{AB}$ is the force applied by the abductor muscles on the pelvis can be seen, the joint reaction force can be as high as 3.3 times body weight $W$.

Figure 2 Biomechanics of a leg when climbing the stairs.

$W$ is the reaction force acting on single feet due to his self-weight. The resultant forces on the knee joint are given by the vector forces $F_P$ and $F_J$, which is represented as a vector diagram.
If \( W \) is the weight of the person, and if the weight of the left leg is assumed to be \( \frac{1}{6} \times W \), then the balancing force at the abductor muscle is found to be 2.5 times the weight of person. Hence the reaction force at the hip as a result of the person’s body weight is found to be 3.3 times weight of the person.

Similarly the biomechanics of person climbing stairs is shown in Fig-2[1]. If \( W \) is the person’s weight, the reaction force on the foot balances it. By using biomechanics principle the magnitude of force at the patellar tendon is found to be 3 times the weight of body and the joint reaction force at the knee is found to be 3.5 times the body weight.

Similar principles are applied to various other orthopedic joints involved in different physical activities like forces on the shoulder of a man lifting weight, forces on the spine etc., These forces acting also depend on the kind of day to day activities a person is involved, and loading can also be of different types like cyclic in nature when walking, running or continuous in nature when standing still etc., Thus large forces are applied to human joints during everyday activities.

These large forces are applied for millions of cycles of loading over the lifetime of a person. An average number of steps walked by person can be 7904(+/- 2534) [2], which approximates to around 3.9 (+/-1.2) miles per day. Therefore for a person having an average life span of 65 years would walk on an average 18.75 million steps. This is just in case of normal walking, while the other activities would involve sitting, running, jumping, lifting weights, etc.,

This means that the body copes with large forces and repetitive cycles of loading. It does this by constantly repairing and regenerating the tissue that is damaged by loading. This process is called remodeling. Not only does the human joints withstand these large cycles of
loading but they are also responsible for remodeling the tissue according to the kind of physical activities a person is involved. The strength of the joints and tissues are different for people involved in different activities like athletes, volleyball players, swimmers, astronauts, tennis players, etc., It is well known fact that the strength of the joint and tissue depend on the mechanical forces acting. In case of long-term space flight, the reduced mechanical forces results in reduction in bone mass[3]. Studies show that the bone and mineral metabolism is limited in case of humans working in micro gravity [4]. On the opposite end the bone mass was found to be higher in case of professional football players [5] than the people involved in normal day to day activities. Bone mineral densities were also found to be different in case people involved in different athletic activities e.g. karate athletes, judo athletes had higher bone mineral densities (BMD) than that of water polo players[6]. Also the BMD of axial skeleton and limbs were higher in case of volleyball players than in case of control subjects. Thus the body possesses a mechanism to measure the loads applied to different tissues and respond to these loads by appropriately remodeling the tissue so that it can withstand these loads.

It is well known that cells are responsible for making up the Extra Cellular Matrix (ECM) that further govern the tissue shape and function The cells are responsible for building the tissue material. At cellular level the tissue surrounding the cell is called ECM. The major tissues that bear mechanical loadings are bones, cartilage, muscles, tendon, etc., The major kind of loading in tissue like bone and cartilage is compressive. The cell in bone is called osteons and in case of cartilage is called chondrocytes. The cells are responsible for continuous breakdown and rebuilding of the ECM in response to the type of activity a person
is involved. The exact mechanism by which this works at the cellular level is poorly understood.

### 1.2 Articular cartilage structure, shape and function

Articular cartilage is a tissue that acts as an articulating surface between diarthrodial joints[7] [8]. It provides the necessary lubrication and resistance against wear for repetitive articulation. Cartilage primarily consists of specialized cells called chondrocytes that make up the extra cellular matrix (ECM) that surrounds the cells. The major structural components that make up the ECM are water, proteoglycans and collagens that combine in a unique manner to give cartilage its unique property [7] [8]

Articular cartilage is primarily divided into four zones based on the structure and composition of the ECM components through the depth of the tissue. The first zone called the superficial zone and forms the gliding surface. Here the collagen fibrils are arranged parallel to the articulating surface in order to withstand high shear forces that this layer is subjected to. The second zone called the middle zone has collagen arranged in a random fashion with more rounded chondrocytes making it good for resisting compression. The third zone called the deep zone contains collagen-arranged perpendicular to the surface thus anchoring cartilage to bone. This zone has the highest concentration of the proteoglycans and lowest water content. The last zone called the zone of calcified cartilage separates the cartilage from subchondral bone[1]. The chondrocytes derive from the mesenchymal stem cells differentiate during skeletal morphogenesis to form chondrocytes, which then secrete cartilaginous tissue around the cells.
They occupy less than 10% of the total tissue volume [1]. Chondrocytes respond to various environmental stimuli to maintain the structure and function of the ECM. The environmental stimuli can be of various kinds like growth factors, interleukins, mechanical loads etc.,

The other structural components are water that make up to 65% to 80% of the total weight, collagen that make up to 10 to 20% of the total weight and proteoglycans that contribute less than 5% [1]. Water can move through the ECM with high frictional resistance due to small pore size [8]. The frictional resistance is one of the mechanism by which cartilage supports high loads. Collagens form a triple-helical structure provides cartilage with shear and tensile property [1]. They have different orientation along the depth of the tissue providing different function as explained earlier[1]. The biomechanical property of the articular cartilage is considered to be a contribution of different mechanical features like of the constituents of the tissue. This gives the cartilage its unique structure and property under normal functional condition.

Thus the cells control the micro-structure of cartilage that helps it to perform its mechanical function.
1.3 Bone- Structure, shape and function

Bone is a major structural component of a human body. The bone tissue has a unique structure and function, which provides strength and low weight[1]. It is structurally organized into two types. One is called the cortical bone, which is dense, and tabecular bone, which is porous. Trabecular bone primarily takes up compressive loading, while the cortical bone takes up torsion and bending apart from the compressive loading[1]. The cells that make up the bone tissue are osteoclasts and osteoblasts. Osteoblasts also called bone-building cells make up the bone tissue. Osteoclasts are bone resorptive cells characterized by its large size and multiple nuclei and are responsible for breaking down the bone tissue at regular intervals. Osteoblasts and osteoclasts work together in remodeling process of the cell [1]. Osteoclasts continuously break down the bone matrix and osteoblast rebuild the bone matrix at the site where osteroclasts break down the tissue. This remodeling process occurs along the length of the bone. The remodeling process depends on various factors; mechanical stress is one of the major factors. The rate of remodeling eventually declines during the life span at a rate of 2 to 5% per year [1]. The breakdown and rebuilding occurs at constantly at specific cycles.

Remodeling repairs damaged bony tissue as a result of loading and makes the bone strongest in the direction of principle stresses. For example a finite element analysis of the femur revealed that the tabecular bone is laid down exactly along the lines joining the principal directions at each point in the bone.

The unique property of bone is to change its structural property in response to its mechanical environment. Increased bone mineral density after heavy exercise or a decrease
in density as a result of age related activity gives a need for a better understanding of the bone remodeling process and response to its mechanical environment.

1.4 Mechanical loading affect biological behavior of tissue

Compressive loading is intrinsic to certain tissues in our body like cartilage and bone[8]. Cartilage is built and maintained by specialized cells called chondrocytes [1] [9]. In situ experiments in cartilage suggest that chondrocytes can undergo significant deformation due to compressive loading on the tissue[10, 11]. In situ and isolated cell experiments have concluded that such cells are quite resilient to compressive loading, aspiration etc., and exhibit moduli in the range of 0.6 to 2 KPa [12, 13].

It is generally accepted that the cells in bone and cartilage sense the mechanical stresses/strains imposed on the tissue and respond by remodeling the tissue so that the tissue can efficiently perform its mechanical function [10, 14, 15]. Chondrocytes in vivo and embedded in agarose gel, show a turnover, change in metabolism and biosynthesis of the extra-cellular matrix. Studies show that a reduction in proteoglycan synthesis around chondrocyte subjected to a constant static loading.[7, 16]. Dynamic strains of various frequencies have shown to increase the amount of proteoglycan synthesis as well as
pericellular matrix stimulation [16] [7]. The mechanical strains also affect the aggrecan
synthesis relative to the direction and amount of applied load [17]. Studies also show that the
stiffness of the ECM increased by 6 fold with dynamic load applied over a period of time
[18]. Isolated cells on a culture dish respond to mechanical stimuli by reorganizing their
cytoskeletal architecture [9]. The mechanisms by which the cells sense these mechanical
signals have not been well understood. A possible hypothesis could be that cells reorganize
their cytoskeletal structure to either tune in or out certain frequencies of oscillatory loads. It
would be of interest to know how mechanical stimuli is transmitted through the cytoskeletal
framework of a cell, and whether some structural features are more conducive for this
purpose than others. A finite element model of the cell based on its cytoskeletal architecture
would be the starting point of such investigation. The major structural elements that are
responsible for resisting the mechanical loads include cell membrane, cytoskeletal elements
(actins filaments and microtubules). Internal fluid pressure also play a role in resisting
compressive loads. The mechanical and physical properties play a important role in resisting
mechanical loads which needs to be discussed in detail.
1.5 Structural elements of cell

1.5.1 Cell membrane

Structurally the cell membrane forms the outer wall for the cell. It resists tensile loading, primarily from internal fluid pressure. It has a bilipid layer as shown in fig 5. The young’s modulus of the cell membrane was found to be 0.1 Mpa[19]. The thickness of the cell membrane is about 5nm [20].

![Figure 5](image_url) Structure of membrane elements
The bilipid structure of membrane is 5 nano-meters in thickness. Figure from Alberts et al., [20]

1.5.2 Cytoskeletal elements

Actin

Actin filaments are one of the major structural elements of a cell. They form an extensive network as well as the long rope like structure shown in Fig-6. They are involved in structural stability of cell as well as involved in cell motility. They actin fibers are 8 nm in diameter [21]. It is found that the actin are physically attached to the extra cellular matrix through special complexes called integrins. The flexural rigidity of the actin is found to be 7.3E-26 Nm² [22] from which we arrive at the young’s modulus to be 363 MPa.
Microtubules

Microtubules are hollow pipe like elements that resist compression in a cell as shown in fig-7. They are made of 13 different subunits called tubulin. The external diameter of microtubule is 25 nm and the thickness is 2.7 nm [21]. The moment of inertia $I$ is calculated from the cross-sectional area to be $1.628E-32 \text{ m}^4$. The flexural rigidity (EI) of microtubules was found to be $2.1 \text{ E}-23 \text{ N m}^2$ [22] which is about 1000 times stiffer in bending than actin filaments. Therefore the Young’s modulus is calculated by dividing the flexural rigidity of the microtubules by its moment of inertia. The Young’s modulus was found to be $2.1E-23/1.6E-32 = 1.2 \text{ GPa}$. Microtubules are known to take up compressive loads in a cell.
1.5.3 Internal fluid pressure

The fluid inside a cell causes induces tensile stress on the cell wall [23] [24]. Osmotic pressure difference between inside the cell and its outer environment plays a role in the fluid flow between the cell and its environment. When the osmotic concentration of the outside medium is increased, it causes the fluid to flow from inside the cell to outside there by decreasing the internal fluid pressure [24]. This osmotic pressure difference balances the turgor pressure in a cell. This is given by the formula

\[ \Delta P = \Delta \Pi = -(\Pi_e - \Pi_i) \] [24]

where

\( \Delta P \)  turgor pressure

\( \Delta \Pi \)  - osmotic pressure difference between outside the cell and inside.

Also the following relation gives the relation between the volume of the cell and its osmotic concentration.
Where $V$ is cell volume, $b$ is non-osmotic volume, $\Pi_e$ is external osmotic pressure. This shows that the internal fluid pressure is one of the components responsible for internal volumetric expansion of the cell and further resist compressive loads.
Chapter 2: Rationale

Individual structural elements of a cell combine and organize to form a architecture that can resist different kinds of loadings. The cytoskeletal architecture of the cells is known to change depending on the shape and dimensionality (2D-vs 3D) of the substrate on which they are grown[25, 26]. Further, these differences in cytoskeletal organization have been linked to differences in behavior or phenotype expressed by the cells and these influences have been shown to be independent of biochemical stimuli [9, 27-29]. One would expect that differences in cytoskeletal structure of a cell would be reflected in the gross mechanical properties of a cell such as modulus of elasticity and anisotropy ratio[25, 30]. Interestingly, it has already been shown that chondrocytes from osteoarthritic cartilage have significantly different material properties than chondrocytes from normal cartilage[31]. Could these be linked to differences in cytoskeletal structure of the cells? If so, the differences in cytoskeletal structure could then be used as mechanical markers of cellular phenotype and could have important implications in diagnosing disease or predicting cell behavior. A finite element model can provide a theoretical basis for such ideas and can provide clues for how much one can expect changes in gross material properties of a cell when its cytoskeletal structure changes by a certain amount. These in turn can lead to well-defined experiments that can then aim to measure such changes.

The second mechanism speculates that the microtubules and actin/intermediate filaments form a “tensegrity” structure in which the microtubules are in pre-compression and
the actin/intermediate filaments are in pre-tension [30, 32]. This theory is supported by experimental evidence based on changes in cell shape and load transmission to substrate on which the cell is grown when pharmaceutical agents that disrupt specific cytoskeletal structures are used or when portions of the cell are physically manipulated. While the specifics of the tensegrity model are under debate[32], there is a consensus that a combination of pre-tension/ pre-compression probably exists in the cytoskeletal architecture. We used this feature in our model.

There exist evidence that microtubules are the compression bearing elements in a cell [30, 33]. In neuronal cells, when the microtubule elements were dissolved, the cell changed its mechanical properties in a way that indicated that the microtubules probably resisted compression [33-35]. In other experiments, the transfer of force to a stretchable membrane on which the cells were grown was measured when the microtubule network was dissolved. These also indicated that the microtubules were in compression [30, 33, 35]. Direct visualization experiments show that microtubules can buckle inside a cell ostensibly due to compressive loading [30]. Microtubules have a very high slenderness ratio (Length = 7.5 µm, diameter = 25 nm, thus slenderness ratio = 300), thus making them prone to buckling. However, the inter connections with other cytoskeletal elements would prevent a catastrophic failure of the microtubules in buckling. We thus incorporated buckling of microtubules and modeled the post buckling behavior of the microtubules in our model.

The third mechanism postulates that the internal fluid pressure of the cell tries to expand the cell and the cell membrane [23, 24, 36, 37]. Hence the cell behaves like a blown-up balloon, which can resist compression. Osmotic experiments confirm the presence of internal fluid pressure in cells, wherein cells swell or shrink when the molarity of the
extracellular fluid is changed [36, 38] Unpublished results in our laboratory show that when the cell membrane of certain cells embedded in agarose gel is ruptured with a micropipette, they undergo shrinking in size that would be expected to accompany depressurization. We used the internal fluid pressure of cells in our model.

We thus propose the following model of the cell: In the resting state of the cell, the microtubules should be in compression, the actin should be in tension, the cell membrane should be in tension and there should exist an internal fluid pressure. All of these features would collectively resist external loading. Upon external loading, the microtubules would be prone to buckling and the actin filaments will serve to stabilize the microtubules against catastrophic buckling.
Chapter 3: 3D Finite Element Model of a Cell incorporating internal fluid pressure

3.1 Description of cell model

A 3D finite element model of cell is created in ABAQUS (*Habbit, Karlsson and Sorensen Inc, Pawtucket, RI*). The Cell is modeled as a fluid filled membrane sphere of radius 7.5 microns. The membrane is considered as fully permeable. The membrane was held in place by the cytoskeletal elements (actin filaments) emanating from the center of the cell. This prevents the cell from freely blowing up due to intra-fluid pressure. The internal fluid pressure causes the membrane as well as cytoskeletal elements to be in pre-tension. Only 1/8 of cell is modeled considering symmetric conditions. A representative model is shown in fig-8. The membrane and cytoskeletal elements are considered to be linear, elastic materials. The cytoskeletal elements in the model are the 2 noded Beam elements in 3-D space (B31), 3-noded and 4-noded membrane elements (element type M3D3 and M3D4) were used to model the cell membrane.

Figure 8 3D Finite element model of a cell.
The model Consists of cell membrane, cytoskeletal elements emanating from the center to the cell membrane. Internal fluid pressure blows up the model causing the cytoskeletal elements to be in pre-tension.
The cytoskeletal elements (truss element- element type T3D2) emanating from the center to the cell membrane are modeled with actin properties and cross-section. This model is now subjected to a internal fluid pressure of 0.05 MPa. This caused the whole model to be in tension. Now a compressive load of 0.025 MPa is applied to the membrane surface from the outer surface of membrane. This causes a reduction in cell volume.

Material Properties and Dimensions

Cell membrane

- Thickness – 0.1 microns.[21]
- Young’s modulus - 0.1 Mpa.[19]

Actin

- Diameter - 8 nm [21]
- Young’s modulus - 0.363 GPa [22]

Microtubule:

- Diameter - 25 nm [21]
- Thickness - 2.7 nm [21]
- Young’s modulus – 1.2 Gpa[22]

A FORTRAN (Fortran for Unix Alpha System) code is written to generate a ABAQUS input file representing the model described above. An ABAQUS subroutine is written in FORTRAN to extract the deformed nodal coordinates and then calculate the change in volume of the cell for the applied load to the cell model. The volumetric stiffness of the cell is calculated as Bulk-modulus \( K = P/\Delta V/V \). The Cytoskeletal model is validated with a 3D continuum model, and a Closed Form Elasticity solution by Goodier [39].
3.2 Description of the model generation program

A FORTRAN program was written to create an ABAQUS input file representing the 3-D model as shown in fig-8. The program listed in Appendix-1, is described in the Flowchart. First depending on the number of elements required along each edge of the curve and the radius of the sphere, the nodes are generated at the outer surface and at every $1/10^\text{th}$ distance along the radius of the sphere. The step involved in generating nodes is described in flowchart- B. A model calculation for generation a node in spherical coordinate is shown in appendix-2. The nodes at the outer surface are connected by membrane elements (3-noded & 4-noded). The step involved in generating the membrane elements is described in flowchart- C.

The nodes in between the outer surface and the center of the sphere are connected in a radial direction starting from the center of sphere to the outer surface. Beam (B31) elements with Microtubule properties and Cross-section are used. The steps involved in generating radial elements are described in flowchart-D. The nodes between outer surface and center of sphere are inter-connected across each other at various levels along the radial direction. Truss elements (T3D2) with Actin filament material properties and Cross-section are used with Rope like (No-Compression Option in ABAQUS *Habbit, Karlsson and Sorensen Inc, Pawtucket, RI*) condition since actin can take only tensile loads. The steps involved to generate the cross-link elements are described in flowchart-E.
Start

Input
Cell radius (r)
Number of divisions on outer curvature (N)

Generate nodal coordinates
X-coord, Y-coord, Z-coord

Write to inp file
Node number, X-coord, Y-coord, Z-coord

Generate membrane element and Write to inp file
4-noded membrane elements
Element number, node1, node2, node3, node4

Generate membrane element and Write to inp file
3-noded membrane elements
Element number, node1, node2, node3, node4

Generate cytoskeletal truss element and Write to inp file
Truss elements joining center node to intermediate node
Element number, center of sphere node, intermediate node

Generate cytoskeletal and Write to inp file
Elements joining intermediate nodes to membrane nodes
Element number, node1, node2

Generate cross elements
and Write to inp file
Truss element representing the cross element

Symmetric Boundary condition along edges of the cell model
Apply symmetric boundary conditions appropriate to the surface selected
Node number, appropriate boundary condition

end
\[ \theta = 0, \varphi = 0 \]
\[ \varphi_{inc} = \frac{90}{(N-1)} \]
\[ \theta_{inc} = \frac{90}{(N-1)} \]

Node-no = 1

Do loop for vertical incrementation

Do loop for horizontal incrementation

\[ X = R \cos(\theta) \cos(\varphi) \]
\[ Y = R \sin(\theta) \]
\[ Z = R \cos(\varphi) \sin(\theta) \]

Write to inp file

Node-no, X, Y, Z
Node-no+500, Xhalf, Yhalf, Zhalf

Node-no = Node-no + 1

\[ \varphi = \varphi + \varphi_{inc} \]
\[ \theta = 0.0 \]

Write to inp file

Node-no, 0, R, 0
Node-no+500, 0, R/2, 0

Element number = Element number + 1

Level1 = Level1 + 1

Do loop for vertical level incrementation

\[ J = 1 \text{ to } N-1 \]

Do loop for horizontal level incrementation

\[ I = 1 \text{ to } N \]

Write to inp file

Element number, level2+I+1, level1+I+1, level1+I, level2+I

Element numr = Element numr + 1

Level1 = N*J

Level2 = level1 + N

Generation of 3 Noded membrane elements

\[ N1 = (N-1)N + 1 \]

Do loop \[ I = 1 \text{ to } N \]

Write to inp file

Element number, N1, level1+I+1, level1+I

Element number = element number + 1
C

Node-no = 0

Do loop for vertical level incrementation
Vert-no = 1 to N-1

Do loop for horizontal level incrementation
Horino = 1 to N

Write to inp file
Element no1, 10000, node-no+501
Element no2, node-no+1, node-no+501

Node-no = Node-no +1
Element no1 = Element no1 +1
Element no2 = Element no2 +2

Node-no = N* Vertno

Write to inp file
Element no1, 10000, node-no+501
Element no2, node-no+1, node-no+501

D

Do loop for vertical level incrementation
Vert = 1 to N-1

Do loop for horizontal level incrementation
Hori = 1 to N-1

Write to inp file
Element no, node-no +1, node-no+2

Element no = Element no +1
Node-no = node-no +1

Node-no = (vert*N) + 500

E
Generation of cross elements in vertical direction

Level 1 = 0
Level 2 = N

Do loop for vertical level increment
Vert = 1 to N-2

Do loop for horizontal level increment
Hori = 1 to N

Write to inp file
Element no, level1+500+hori, level2+500+hori

Element no = element no + 1

Level1 = vert * N
Level2 = level1 + N

Itemp = (N-1)*N+501

Do loop for Horizontal level increment
Hori = 1 to N

Write to inp file
Element no, level1+hori+500, Itemp

Element no = element no + 1
**Right edge** - constrained in 3-direction

**Left edge** – constrained in 1-direction

**Bottom edge** – constrained in 2-direction

\[
F
\]

\[
\text{Iredge} = 1 \\
\text{Iledge} = N
\]

Do loop for the bottom edge 
\(I = 1 \text{ to } N\)

Write to inp file 
\(I, 2, ,
I+500, 2, ,
\)

Do loop for vertical level increment 
\(I = 1 \text{ to } N-1\)

Write to inp file 
\(\text{Iledge}, 1, ,
\text{Iledge+500}, 1, ,
\text{Iredge}, 3, ,
\text{Iredge+500}, 3, ,
\)

\[
\text{Iredge} = N \times I \\
\text{Iledge} = \text{Iredge} + N
\]

\(N \times (N-1)+1, 1, 3
\(N \times (N-1)+501, 1, 3
\) 10000, encastre
Symmetric boundary condition is applied to the nodes at the 3 edge-surfaces since only 1/8\textsuperscript{th} of the sphere is modeled. The nodes at bottom surface are constrained from translation in 2-Direction, the nodes at the left edge is constrained from translation in 1-Direction and the nodes at the right surface are constrained in 3-Direction. The center of the sphere is constrained in all the directions. The steps involved in applying the boundary conditions are described in flowchart-F. This model is subjected to various kinds of loading conditions representing internal fluid pressure, cytoskeletal Pre-stress, External compressive pressure, etc., depending on the type of behavior to be studied with the model. The various steps involved in creating the 3D model of the cell is shown in the flowchart. Different Analysis is performed to study the behavior of this cell model to various conditions.

\subsection*{3.3 Bulk modulus extraction program}

After the analysis is run, ABAQUS software stores results (deformation, stresses, strains etc..) in a separate file with a name “\textit{filename}.fil” the filename is same as that used in the input file. A user subroutine is written to extract the original and deformed coordinates and the membrane elements and there connected nodes from the \textit{.fil} file. The steps involved in extraction of nodal results are shown in flowchart. The original and deformed coordinates are extracted for the nodes related to membrane elements. The steps involved in extracting the nodal results related to membrane elements are shown in flowchart B, C and D. The overall volume is calculated by considering each membrane element as a pyramid with its apex as the center of the sphere and membrane element nodes as its base as shown in fig 9. The original and deformed volume of the pyramid is calculated from the results extracted results from \textit{.fil} file for the nodes connected to the membrane elements. The steps involved in
calculating the volume are shown in flowchart E. The volume of the pyramid is calculated similarly for all the membrane elements (4-Noded and 3-Noded) and summed to get the original and deformed volume of the sphere. Change in volume (ΔV) is calculated from the original volume (V) and deformed volume. Equivalent Bulk modulus of the fluid filled model is calculated from the following formula.

\[ K = \frac{\text{Applied Pressure}}{\Delta V/V} \]

Figure 9 Pyramid structure

Pyramid with its apex as center of the cell and the base as the membrane element. Volume is calculated for all the membrane elements and added to get the overall cell volume. The formula for volume of the pyramid = (Area of base * height)/3
Do loop – To Extract the key records and result data from .fil file

- If key = 2000
  - Store the step number

- If Step = 1
  - Extract
  - If Key = 1921
    - Extract Number of nodes
  - N
    - If Step = 1
      - A
    - Y
      - A
    - N
      - continue

1
Calculate volume for 3-noded membrane elements

Calculate volume for 4-noded membrane elements

Total Volume = 3-noded volume + 4-noded volume

End
If key=101

Y

Extract Node Number and deformed coordinates

Store the Node Number and Deformed coordinates into ARRAY IDEF1 AND RDEF1

Return
Element number=1
Level1=0
Level2=N

Do loop for vertical level incrementation
J=1 to N-1

Do loop for horizontal level incrementation
I=1 to N

Write to Array ILRAY
Element number, level2+I+1, level1+I+1, level1+I, level2+I

Element number= element number+1

Level1= N*J
Level2=level1+N

Generation of 3 Noded Membrane elements

N1=(N-1)*N + 1

Do loop I= 1 to N

Write to Array I3NOD
Element number, N1, level1+I+1, level1+I

Element number=element number +1

Return
Do loop
For K2 = 1 to num of 3-noded elements

Extract element number, node1, node2, node3
From Array I3NOD

Extract original coords for node1, node2, node3
From Array INRAY, RNRAY

Extract Deformed cords for node1, node2, node3
From Array IDEF1, RDEF1

Add Original Coordinates + Deformed Coordinates for Node1,
Node2, Node3

Call function to calculate volume
Subvol1 = volume (added coordinates for node1, node2, node3)

Total volume = Total volume + Subvol1

Subvol1 = 0
Total 4Volume = 0

Do loop
For K2 = 1 to num of 4-noded elements

Extract element number, node1, node2, node3, node4
From Array ILRAY

Extract original coords for node1, node2, node3, node4
From Array INRAY, RNRAY

Extract Deformed cords for node1, node2, node3, node4
From Array IDEF1, RDEF1

Add Original Coordinates + Deformed Coordinates for Node1, Node2, Node3, Node4

Call function to calculate volume
Subvol1 = volume (added coordinates for node1, node2, node3)
Subvol2 = volume (added coordinates for node1, node3, node4)

Volume = subvol1 + subvol2
Total volume = Total volume + volume

volume = 0
Start

Input
x1,y1,z1, x2,y2,z2, x3,y3,z3

A1= Determinant [(x1,y1,1),(x2,y2,1),(x3,y3,1)]
A2= Determinant [(y1,z1,1),(y2,z2,1),(y3,z3,1)]
A3= Determinant [(z1,x1,1),(z2,x2,1),(z3,x3,1)]

BaseArea = $\frac{\sqrt{A_1^2 + A_2^2 + A_3^2}}{2}$

A = Determinant [(y2-y1,z2-z1), (y3-y1,z3-z1)]
B = Determinant[(x2-x1,z2-z1), (x3-x1,z3-z1)]
C = Determinant[(x2-x1,y2-y1), (x3-x1,z3-z1)]
D = (y1*B)-(x1*A)-(z1*C)

X₀=0, Y₀=0, Z₀=0

length = $\frac{A x_0 + B y_0 + C z_0}{\sqrt{A^2 + B^2 + C^2}}$

Volume = (Basearea * length)/3

Return
3.4 Validation

Fluid filled model Vs continuum model

The Equivalent bulk modulus is calculated from the extracted deformation data of the 3D cell Finite Element Model. Young’s Modulus (E) is calculated from the Equivalent Bulk Modulus (K) from the following formula.

\[ K = \frac{E}{3(1 - 2\nu)} \]

A 1/8th Continuum spherical FE model is created with its radius same as that of the 3D-cytoekeleta model. The young’s modulus obtained from the CSK model is input as material property to the 3D continuum model. The continuum model is subjected to same external loading as that applied to the 3D CSK model. The deformation as a measure of change in radius (\(\Delta R\)) is compared for both the CSK model and continuum model. The procedure for this validation is shown in fig 10. This validation is performed to gain confidence on the bulk modulus calculation program written for the CSK model as well as the deformation results obtained from the CSK model.
Figure 10 Procedure for cytoskeletal cell model validation.

Bulk modulus extracted from the cytoekeletal model is input as material property to continuum model. The deformation for both the model is compared.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of cytoskeletal elements</th>
<th>Change in radius (ΔR)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Cytoskeletal model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>180</td>
<td>0.485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>420</td>
<td>0.276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>612</td>
<td>0.2053</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1 Accuracy of the validation of cytoskeletal model with a closed form solution.

The table shows the accuracy of the deformation measured as change in radius of the sphere. Also as the number of cytoskeletal elements increases the stiffness of the cell increases, as can be seen that the change in radius decreases.
Following the procedure described in Fig-10, the deformations for a given number of
cytoskeletal elements in a cell model was compared with that of a continuum model. The
results are shown in table-1. Table-1 shows the deformation (measured in terms of change in
radius $\Delta R$) for the cytoskeletal model matched closely with the continuum model for 3
different cases. Also the results show that as the number of cytoskeletal elements increase the
overall deformation of the cell subjected to compressive loading decreased.

**Continuum model Vs Closed form Solution**

The accuracy of the results obtained from the continuum FE model is compared with
a closed form solution of Spherical Inclusion inside a Medium. The elasticity solution for the
model shown in Fig-10 was solved by Goodier [39]. The model was considered axis-
symmetric about X and Y-axis. The spherical inclusion has material properties of $E_1$, $\nu_1$ and
the medium with properties $E_2$, $\nu_2$. A uniform pressure $T$ (N/mm) was applied at the infinite
distance from the inclusion. The deformation and stresses in radial and tangential direction at
any location in the medium is given in the equations described below.

\[
U^b_r = -\frac{A}{r^2} - \frac{3B}{r^4} + \left( \frac{5 - 4\nu_b}{1 - 2\nu_b} \right) \frac{2C}{3r^3} + \left[ \frac{-9B}{r^4} + \left( \frac{5 - 4\nu_b}{1 - 2\nu_b} \right) \frac{C}{r^2} \right] \cos 2\theta + \frac{T r}{2E} \left[ (1 - \nu_b) + (1 + \nu_b) \cos 2\theta \right]
\]

\[
U^b_\theta = -\left[ \frac{6B}{r^4} + \frac{2C}{r^2} \right] \sin(2\theta) - \frac{T r}{2E} (1 + \nu_b) \sin 2\theta
\]
There are separate sets of formulas for calculating the stress and deformation in radial and tangential direction inside the inclusion. Both the set of formulas should give the same deformation at the boundary of the inclusion and medium. The boundary condition is symmetric about Y-axis at left edge and X-axis at the left edge. Also the boundary condition between medium and inclusion is no slip condition.

\[
\sigma_{rr}^b = 2\mu_b \left\{ \frac{2A}{r^3} + \frac{12B}{r^5} - \frac{2\nu_b}{(1-2\nu_b)r^3} \right\} + T \cos 2\theta + \frac{T}{2} \cos 2\theta
\]

\[
\sigma_{r\theta}^b = 2\mu_b \left\{ \frac{25B}{r^5} - \left( \frac{1+\nu_b}{1-2\nu_b} \right) \frac{2C}{r^3} \right\} \sin(2\theta) - \frac{T}{2} \sin(2\theta)
\]

A, B, C – functions representing the mechanical properties of inclusion and medium. Shown in Appendix-9. Goodier, 1933
Figure 12 Accuracy of continuum FE spherical model with a closed form solution.
The graph shows deformation in radial direction (Ur) for the Continuum FE model, which goes close to that of closed form solution at the boundary between the medium and the inclusion.

Figure 13 Accuracy of continuum FE spherical model with a closed form solution.
The graph shows stress in radial direction (σr) for the Continuum FE model, which goes close to that of closed form solution at the boundary between the medium and the inclusion.

A program was written using MAPLE to calculate the deformation and stress at the boundary between the medium and the inclusion. The MAPLE code is given in Appendix 4.
The results from the closed form solution were compared with that of the Continuum FE model as shown in Fig-12 and Fig-13. The deformation in the radial direction and the stress in radial direction at the boundary between the inclusion and the medium at various angles of theta is plotted for both the FE continuum model and the Goodier's model [39]. The accuracy of the results between the closed form solution and the continuum FE model is shown in Fig-12 and Fig-13. The closeness of the FEA results with that of the closed-form solution gives us the confidence in believing results of the other finite elements models for which calculating a closed form solution is not feasible.
3.5 Result

Having validated the model with a closed form solution, we take a look at the influence of different parameters on the bulk modulus of the cell. First the effect of the Young’s modulus of the cytoskeletal elements on the bulk modulus (K) of the cell was studied. Fig-14 shows that 10,000-fold increase in Young’s modulus of the cytoskeletons increased the bulk modulus by 5 fold. Next the effect of number of cytoskeletal elements on the bulk modulus of the cell was studied. Fig-15 shows that a 1500 fold increase in number of cytoskeletal elements caused only a 2-fold increase in the bulk modulus of a cell. Next when 4 fold increased the internal fluid pressure, it caused the bulk modulus to increase by 2 fold. This showed that the internal fluid pressure is more important parameter compared to the cytoskeletal elements, when it comes to the overall stiffness of the cell.

**Figure 14** Effect of Young’s modulus of cytoskeletons on the bulk modulus of cell.
A 10,000 fold increase in Young’s modulus of cytoskeletal elements caused only a 5 fold increase in the bulk modulus of the cell

**Figure 15** Effect of number of cytoskeletal elements on the bulk modulus of cell.
A 1500 fold increase in # of cytoskeletal elements caused only a 2 fold increase in the bulk modulus of the cell.
**Figure 16** Effect of internal fluid pressure on the bulk modulus of the cell.
A 4 fold increase in the internal fluid pressure caused a 2 fold increase in the overall bulk modulus of the cell.

### 3.6 Discussion

The model was first validated. Then the effect of various structural parameters on the overall stiffness of the cell was studied. The parametric study shows that internal fluid pressure has more effect on the overall stiffness of the cell compared to the number of cytoskeletal elements and its material property. The reason behind such a behavior could be due to the fact that volume fraction of the cytoskeletal elements are very less compared to that of the whole cell. Therefore if we model a cell with a very large number of cytoskeletal elements then it could lead to having a more effect on the overall stiffness of the cell. Also by varying all these 3 structural parameters, we can make the cell to be 100 times stiffer. This could explain the various behaviors related to chondrocytes being stiffer than other cells.
Chapter 4: Buckling Behavior of the microtubule

4.1 Introduction

Microtubules are known to be one of the structural elements of a cell that contribute towards cell stiffness [32] [40]. Microtubules are known to be one of the major compression bearing elements in a cell [32, 33]. Experiments show that when the microtubule elements were dissolved using drugs, the cell expanded, which supports the fact that the microtubules are in compression [33] [30].

Experiments also show that not only does the microtubule take up compression but also they are prone to buckling [30]. Fig-17 shows the buckling of microtubule when it polymerizes and expands impringing the outer stiff cortex [30]. The arrow in the figure shows the buckled microtubule. Various mechanical models like ingber’s Tensegrity model considers cell as pre-stressed actin-microtubule filaments interconnected such that they stabilize to resist external loads[41]. The slenderness ratio (Length/radius = 3000/12) of microtubules is 250. this high slenderness ratio makes them prone to buckling.

Figure 17 Bucking of Microtubules

Bucking of microtubule elements as it polymerizes and hits the stiff cortex of cell. The arrow mark shows microtubule buckling. Figure from Wang et al., [30]

Volokh et al., [42] and Coughlin et al., [43] studied the buckling behavior of the Ingber’s tensegrity model and showed the stiffening response of the buckled microtubule in a
tensegrity structure. So buckling behavior of the microtubule for our 3D cell model also studied. ABAQUS, a finite element software was used for this purpose.

4.2 Buckling – a review

When a long thin column is subjected to axial compressive load (P) it compresses axially. As the applied load P is increased till it reaches a critical load $P_{cr}$ the column shows a compressive behavior. But for a load $P > P_{cr}$ the column will start to buckle and will settle in a new equilibrium position, with considerable lateral deformation. The simplified model is shown in Fig-18, which has a pinned-boundary condition subjected to compressive loading. Euler’s formula for finding the critical load for a column with pinned end boundary conditions is

$$P_{cr} = \frac{\pi^2 EI}{L_e^2} \quad [44]$$

$E$ – Young’s modulus

$I$ - Moment of Inertia ($= \pi R^4/4$ for circular C/S)

$L_e$ – Effective length (varies with different Boundary conditions)

The $L_e$ for different boundary condition is given in Table-1

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boundary Condition</th>
<th>$L_e$</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pin-pin</td>
<td>$L_e = L$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed-free</td>
<td>$L_e = 2L$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed–pinned</td>
<td>$L_e = 0.7L$</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed-Fixed</td>
<td>$L_e = 0.5L$</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2 Effective length for a column with different end conditions.

The effective length is actual length for pin-ended condition. The effective length half the actual length for fixed free condition. The effective length is twice actual length for fixed-fixed condition.
A microtubule is considered as a single column and the buckling behavior is studied.

The microtubule properties were taken from the literature

Outer Diameter – 25 nm [21]
Thickness - 2.7 nm
Young’s modulus – 1.2 E+03 Mpa [22]
Length - 3 µm

Units:

Load - µN = 10^{-6} pico Newton
Length - µm
Stress - µN/µm^2 = MPa

Figure 18 columns with pin-ended boundary condition.
The top surface is subjected to axial compressive loading. The bottom node is pinned to the ground.
Theoretical calculation of $P_{cr}$ for isolated Microtubule with pin-ended boundary condition are:

$Le = 3 \, \mu m \ [43] (Le = L$ for a pin-pin boundary condition)$

$R = 0.01258 \, \mu m$

$E = 1.2 \times 10^3 \, \mu N/\mu m^2$

$I = \pi R^4/4 = 1.791 \times 10^{-8} \, \mu m^4$

$P_{cr} = 23.57 \times 10^{-6} \, \mu N$

$P_{cr}= 23.57 \text{ Pico Newton}$

ABAQUS Finite element software is used to perform the buckling analysis for complex structure like cell model. Two types of buckling analysis can be performed in ABAQUS one is Eigen value buckling analysis, which is used to extract the $P_{cr}$ for a structure while the other is RIKS analysis, which is used to study the post buckling behavior of a structure.

4.3 Eigen Value Bucking Analysis

The Critical load for buckling $P_{cr}$ is obtained using Eigen Value Analysis in ABAQUS. The microtubule column was modeled with 2-noded beam elements (element type B31). Fig-18 shows the model of a single column with microtubule properties as described above.
The Eigen value-Bucking analysis is used to extract the \( P_{cr} \) for the model. The ABAQUS commands for performing the Eigen Value Buckling is:

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{*Step} \\
&\text{*Buckle} \\
&3,0,0 \ (3 \text{ modes of buckling to extract}) \\
&\text{*load} \\
&13,2,-1.0 \ (\text{node 13, load applied in Y-direction, magnitude of load=1}) \\
&\text{*End step.}
\end{align*}
\]

The \( P_{cr} \) from ABAQUS matched well with the theoretical value of 23.57 PN. The Eigen value analysis was verified with the theoretical calculations for different boundary conditions, which is shown in table 3.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boundary condition</th>
<th>( P_{cr} ) – ABAQUS</th>
<th>( P_{cr} ) - Theory</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pin-roller</td>
<td>23.68</td>
<td>23.57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed-free</td>
<td>6.48</td>
<td>6.47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fixed-pin</td>
<td>53.7</td>
<td>52.81</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 3  Comparison of ABAQUS Eigen value results with theoretical calculation.

The closeness of the results obtained from ABAQUS with that of theoretical values for microtubule column.

**Eigen Value analysis of Microtubule column 2-Step loading**

The behavior of microtubule column is studied for a multiple step loading.

Step 1– apply a small vertical loading to compress the vertical column.

Step 2– apply bucking load.

Theoretical value of the \( P_{cr} \) is found to be around 24 PN (for 0 preload). The following table gives the \( P_{cr} \) for the column with different dead load (step-1).
Table 4 Effect of dead load on the critical buckling load.
As the dead load is increased from 0 PN to 26 PN the eigen value extracted in ABAQUS decreases from the actual critical load of 26 PN to 0.001 PN. The total load of dead load + the eigen value extracted is equal to the actual critical load for different cases of dead load applied.

From the above analysis, the vertical load acts as a dead load and ABAQUS calculates the critical load (Pcr) for bucking as

\[ \text{Pcr(Total)} = \text{dead load} + \text{Applied load} \times \lambda_{cr}. \]

Thus a large dead load will reduce the applied load needed to buckle the column.

### 4.4 Riks Instability Analysis

Eigen value Buckling analysis is performed to obtain the critical buckling load only. The Eigen value analysis gives the normalized deformation values for the buckled column. Therefore to obtain the actual deformations for the buckled column, a riks procedure is performed. This is a 2-step analysis, in the first step – a small lateral load is applied to create
an imperfection in the model, this load is called perturbation load. The second step is the vertical load applied causing the column to buckle. When the vertical load applied is greater than $P_{cr}$ the column starts to buckle and the behavior known as post bucking behavior is plotted as a relation between chord length Vs applied load. ABAQUS solves the unstable analysis in increment of the applied load called the load factor. The load factor usually ranges from 0 to 1. For a particular increment, the deformation is calculated for a particular load factor. A user subroutine is written in FORTRAN to extract the nodal deformation and load factors for all the increments. This subroutine is shown in appendix 8. Chord length is the deformation of the top most node of the column in Y-Direction. The input file for riks analysis is shown in Appendix-6. The post-buckling plot of Chord length Vs Load is given in the Fig-19.

![load Vs chord length](image)

**Figure 19 Post buckling of microtubule column**

Post bucking analysis of Microtubule. The boundary condition used is Pinned-roller type. The column starts to buckle at 23.57 PN and further shows a post bucking behavior where even for a small increase in load there is a huge increase in deformation.
ABAQUS Commands for performing Riks analysis:

*Step
*static,riks
0.01,1,,,1.0
*load
13,2,-23.57 (node 13 loaded in Y-direction, magnitude=23.57)
*End step.

A pipe cross-section is chosen as it resembles the Microtubule C/S=190 nm² [42] with thickness to be 2.7 nm. Fig-19 shows the post-buckling behavior of microtubule column. The plot shows the axial deformation of the top most node of the column Vs the applied load for a microtubule column. For a load below the critical load the deformation is very less. But once the critical load is reached the column starts to buckle and hence even for a slight increase in the load, there is a large deformation. This is shown in Fig-19.

4.4.1 Validation

Riks Post-buckling of MT-Column with a closed-form solution

The post bucking analysis Microtubule was performed by 2 different groups Coughlin et al [43] and by Volokh et al [42]. Coughlin et al [43] predicted a post bucking behavior as shown in the fig 20, which shows the relation between chord length and applied load. Both Coughlin and Volokh et al., [42] predict the same Pcr but Volokh claimed Coughlin et al [43] to be wrong. Volokh et al [42] predicted the post buckling behavior to be stiffer than that predicted by Coughlin for the same geometry conditions. Our post-buckling curve matches to that predicted by Volokh et al., [42]. This gives the confidence that the results predicted by ABAQUS are believable.
Figure 20 comparision of post buckling results of ABAQUS with elastica solution. Comparision of our post critical analysis with that of couglin et al analysis and volokh et al analysis. Our analysis matches closely with volokh et al analysis.

4.5 Flag Model

Post buckling of analysis for a Flag with NO-COMPRESSION condition for the lateral elements

In a cell, the microtubule is interconnected by actin filaments, which act as lateral constraints trying to stabilize the micotubule from buckling. In a simplest level of interaction between microtubule and actin, the model can be considered like a flagpole, where microtubule is the long column (flag pole), held in place by actin ropes. The buckling behavior is studied for such a model as this case can be further extrapolated to our 3D cell model.

A riks analysis is performed for a model as shown in fig-21. Like before, 2 noded beam elements (element type B31) were used to model the microtubule and actin filaments. A No-
Compression option was used for the actin filaments to simulate the rope like behavior of the filaments. The properties and dimensions were taken from the literature as described earlier. Pinned boundary conditions were applied to the bottom nodes of the actin elements. Perturbation and compressive loads were applied and post-buckling behavior of the microtubule column was studied like before.

Figure 21 Flag model with lateral cables
Lateral elements with rope like condition (No-Compression option). A imperfection load is applied to start the buckling process. The applied to buckle the column

A post-buckling graph was plotted between compressive load applied Vs lateral deformation (ie direction perpendicular to the column) for the middle node in the microtubule column. Fig-22 shows the difference in the post buckling behavior of the flag model if the lateral constraints were considered as rods (can take compressive loads) instead of ropes. As expected when the lateral constraints were rods it post-buckling stiffness was much higher than when actins being considered as rope-like (No-compression).
Figure 22 comparison of postbuckling of flag model with rope like lateral elements Vs rod like lateral elements.

A rope like lateral elements buckles much more than that of rod like lateral elements in flag model.

4.5.1 Prestress Effect on Flag model

The effect of pre-stress on the post-buckling behavior was studied. A tensile pre-stress was applied to the actin filaments and this caused the microtubules to be in pre-compression. A graph is plotted between the applied compressive load Vs lateral deformation for the middle node of the microtubule column. Like before, a typical post buckling behavior is seen above a critical load for all cases. The level of pre-stress in the actin filaments affected the post-buckling behavior of the microtubules. Simple adding the actin filaments to the free end of the microtubule column stabilized it as shown in Fig-21. A small amount of prestress (0.001 MPa) increased the critical buckling load and also made a more stable post-buckling mode (smaller lateral deformation for a given load). However, above a certain value
of pre-stress (0.04 MPa), the microtubule became more prone to buckling. This finding is in agreement of the eigen value analysis performed in chapter 4.3 where the presence of a dead load reduced the active load needed to buckle a microtubule. In the riks analysis a high enough pre-stress in the actin elements produces a greater pre-load on the microtubule column thus causing it to buckle more.

![Load Vs Lateral Def](image)

Figure 23 Effect of prestress on the pre and post buckling behavior of the flag model
As the prestress is increased the deformations decreases due to stiffer boundary conditions and then the model deforms more due to the domination of applied prestress.

### 4.6 Discussion

The buckling behavior of a microtubule column was first studied. The critical load for a column with pin-ended boundary conditions and microtubule material properties is 23.57 PN. The critical load predicted by ABAQUS also matched closely with the buckling load calculated theoretically. The post-buckling behavior of microtubule column between our
analysis and that performed by volokh et al., [42] also matched closely. The presence of actin filaments attached to the free end of the microtubule column stabilized the column. The level of pre-stress added to the actin filaments affected the post-buckling behavior of the microtubule. A small pre-stress of 0.001 MPa increased the stability of the microtubule in the post-buckling mode. However, above a certain pre-stress value (e.g. for pre-stress=0.04 MPa), the microtubule became more prone to buckling. This confirmed our expectation that the presence of a slight amount of pre-stress in the actin filaments would stabilize the free end of the microtubules. However, it puts the microtubule in compression, which increases its propensity to buckle. Thus there would be some value of pre-stress below which we would expect the stabilization but above which we would expect loss of stability. The finite element analysis showed such trends, which intuitively makes sense.
Chapter 5: Construction of a layered Finite Element Model of a Cell

5.1 Introduction

Having checked the buckling behavior of microtubules when stabilized by actin filaments in a simple set up of flag like model, the next step was to put together all the structural elements that contribute to the stability of a cell. These include, pre-stressed actin and microtubules in a 3D setup, a cell membrane and presence of internal fluid pressure. Each structural element was added layer by layer. The distribution of stress as each layer was added was studied to see if they matched with intuitive expectations.

5.2 Materials and Methods

A 3D finite element model of a cell was created in ABAQUS that resembled tensegrity like structure. First only cytoskeletal elements were modeled without any membrane elements. The model is shown in Fig-21. The model consists of microtubule elements emanating radially from the center of cell to the outer surface of the cell. The cross-links represent the actin filaments that have a rope like condition by using No-Compression option in ABAQUS. Beam elements (Element type B31) were used to model microtubule and actin filaments.
Figure 24 Schematic representation of layered addition of structural elements

Step –1 cytoskeletal structure with actin in pre-tension and microtubules in precompression, step-2 A membrane element flapped over the cytoskeletal model so that the membrane takes up some of the stresses. Step-3 Internal fluid pressure trying to blow up the entire model.

Step 1 - Cytoskeletal model, actin in pre-tension, microtubule in pre-compression

Step 2 - Membrane element flapped over the cytoskeletal model.

Step 3 – cell model with internal fluid pressure.
A tensile pre-stress was applied to actin filaments and this caused the microtubules to be in pre-compression. A rope like material condition was applied to the actin filaments using No-Compression option in ABAQUS. A layered addition of structural elements causes change in distribution of stresses among the structural elements of the cell. First a membrane (modeled such that it can take only tensile stress and no compressive stresses) was flapped over the cytoskeletal model; it caused a change in distribution of the stresses in the cytoskeletal elements. Next, internal fluid pressure caused the whole cell to blow up and also the tensile stress in all the structural elements increased. The procedure is schematically shown in Fig-21.

5.3 Results

First a tensile pre-stress of 4.12 Mpa was applied to actin filaments. This caused the microtubules to be in compression of 3.2 Mpa. The results are shown in table-5. Next a membrane (element type M3D4) with No-Compression option was added to the cytoskeletal model, this resulted in membrane taking up some of the tensile stresses from the actin. So the tensile stress in actin reduced from 4.12 Mpa to 3.6 Mpa while the compressive stresses in microtubules increased from 3.2 Mpa to 3.5 Mpa. When an internal fluid pressure was applied, the whole model blows up and this increases the tensile stress in all the structural elements. So the compressive stresses in microtubules decreases to 0.6 Mpa while the tensile stresses in actin and membrane elements increased.
### Table 5 The stress on structural elements layered addition of each component.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Microtubule (Mpa)</th>
<th>Actin (Mpa)</th>
<th>Membrane (Mpa)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CSK only with prestress</td>
<td>-3.2</td>
<td>4.12</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+Membrane</td>
<td>-3.5</td>
<td>3.6</td>
<td>Negligible</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>+Membrane+ Internal pressure</td>
<td>-0.6</td>
<td>6.2</td>
<td>0.00043</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tensile pre-stress on actin causes microtubule to be in pre-compression. Addition of membrane on this model causes a reduction in tensile stress on actin. Internal fluid pressure causes increase in tensile stresses in all the elements.

### 5.4 Discussion

First the cytoskeletal (Actin and Microtubules) was modeled and a pre-tension introduced into actin network. This caused the corresponding distribution of the stresses in the cytoskeletal structure. Next when the cell membrane was added to the cytoskeletal structure, the tensile stresses were re-distributed to the actin and membrane elements. Therefore the tensile stresses in actin filaments decreased. This indicated that the membrane element was sharing some of the pre-stress of actin filaments. When the internal fluid pressure was applied, the cell expanded causing the compressive stresses in microtubule to decrease and tensile stresses in Actin and cell membrane increased. Next, a small
perturbation load was applied to the microtubules so that they became prone to buckling. This is what we refer to as a resting state of the cell, where microtubules, prone to buckling are in pre-compression, actin and the cell membrane are in pre-tension and there is an internal fluid pressure. The distribution of stresses as each structural element is added makes sense intuitively. Finally a perturbation load was applied to each microtubule to make them prone to buckling under compressive load. This represented the resting state of the cell, where the microtubule were in pre-compression, the actin and cell membrane were in pre-tension, there was an internal fluid pressure and the microtubule prone to buckling.
Chapter 6 - Buckling of microtubules in a 3D cell model

6.1 Introduction

Exploring the literature, three mechanisms by which cells can resist compressive loading were identified. One of them is, that microtubules are the compression bearing elements in a cell [30, 33]. In specific cells, when the microtubule elements were dissolved, the whole cell reduced in volume, which indicated that, the microtubules probably resisted compression [33-35]. In separate experiments, the transfer of force to a stretchable membrane on which the cells were grown was measured when the microtubule network was dissolved. These also indicated that the microtubules were in compression.[30, 33, 35]. Direct visualization experiments show that microtubules can buckle inside a cell ostensibly due to compressive loading[30]. Microtubules have a very high slenderness ratio (Length = 7.5 µm, diameter = 25 nm, thus slenderness ratio = 300), thus making them prone to buckling. However, the inter connections with other cytoskeletal elements would prevent a catastrophic failure of the microtubules. We thus incorporated buckling of microtubules and modeled the post buckling behavior of the microtubules in our model.

6.2 Materials and methods

In chapter 6 a simple flagpole model of cytoskeletal architecture was validated. In this chapter we put together the model of the whole cell. A finite element model of a cell was developed using as shown in fig-22. The cell was modeled as having a spherical shape. Taking advantage of the symmetry of the geometry of the cell, only one-eighth of the cell was modeled with the coordinate planes x-y, y-z and z-x acting as planes of symmetry.
Boundary conditions consistent with the symmetry were applied (nodes in a plane of symmetry were not allowed to have displacements in a direction perpendicular to the plane, i.e. points in the xy plane were not allowed to displace in the z direction etc.). An idealized cytoskeletal structure was chosen. The microtubule network was modeled with 2-noded beam elements (element type B31) emanating from the center of the cell to end on the cell membrane. The actin network was transverse to the microtubule network and was modeled with 2-noded beam (element type B31) elements joining adjacent microtubule filaments - at the outer membrane as well as various radial distances from the center of the cell (fig 1 shows a case where only the center of the microtubule elements are joined). The cell membrane was meshed with 3 and 4 noded membrane elements (element type M3D4 and M3D3).

**Figure 25** 3D finite element model of a cell

Microtubules emanating from the center to the cell membrane. Actin filaments forming the cross mesh, stabilize the microtubules from buckling.

An analogy can be drawn to a tent, where the microtubules are the main masts of the tent, the ropes are the actin filaments, the tent material is the cell membrane and the air inside is pressurized.

The properties and dimensions of the various components of the cell were taken from the literature. Based on measurements of the size of prechondrocytic ATDC5 cells embedded in agarose gel in our laboratory, we chose the radius of the cell as 7.5 micrometers. The
modulus of elasticity of the cell membrane was taken to be 0.1 MPa and its thickness to be 0.01 microns. This was based on values obtained from experiments on red blood cells by Hochmuth et al [19]. The no compression option in ABAQUS was used for membrane elements, to prevent the membrane from supporting any compressive loads. Studies on microtubule structure reveal that they are like hollow cylinders of 25 nm outer diameter and thickness of 2.7 nm while the actin filaments are ropelike and are 8 nm in diameter [20]. From this, the cross sectional moment of inertia (I) of these elements could be calculated.

Gittes et al., [22] measured the flexural rigidity (EI) of microtubules and actin filaments to be 2.1e-23 Nm² and 7.3e-26 Nm² respectively. Thus, the Young’s modulus (E) for the actin and microtubule filaments was calculated to be 1.2 e03 MPa and 3.63 e02 MPa respectively.

The microtubules of the cell are stabilized by the presence of the pre-stress in the actin filaments- thus the actins are in pre-tension and microtubules in pre-compression, consistent with studies on these cytoskeletal structures. To model the buckling of microtubules in cell model, a small perturbation load (0.01pN) was applied to the microtubule elements in a direction perpendicular to the axis of each microtubule element and at its midpoint. This perturbation load made the microtubules prone to buckling under compressive load. In ABAQUS the perturbation load needs to be resolved into there respective x, y and z components. The direction cosines perpendicular to the microtubule were found. The actual perturbation load was multiplied by the direction cosine to resolve the load into there respective components. The procedure resolving the perturbation load into their respective components is described in APPENDIX-7.

Next we applied a point load the cell model and looked for the buckling behavior of the nearby microtubules. The point load was applied to a outer node (at the membrane) in the
direction along the axis of the microtubule. This load is also resolved into the respective components. The procedure for resolving the point load is described in APPENDIX-7. The effect of different amounts of prestress in the actin cytoskeleton was examined. Also whether the cytoskeletal structures far away from the point of application of the point load were being affected (action at a distance).

6.3 Results

Buckling of microtubule in a cell subjected to point load:

The cell model is shown in Fig-22. A point compressive load (upto 100 pN) was applied at the outer node of a microtubule in the direction along the axis of microtubule element. Like before, a RIKS procedure was used in ABAQUS to perform the post-buckling analysis of all microtubules in the cell. Fig-26 shows the deformation of the microtubules in the cell in response to the applied point load. The microtubule, which was loaded showed buckling behavior, thus replicating cell behavior to point loading/perturbation, as seen in certain experimental setups [30]. Fig-26 shows the post buckling plot between the applied load and lateral deformation (deformation in the direction of perpendicular to axis of microtubule for middle node of the microtubule to which load is applied) of the middle node of the
Figure 26 Post-buckling of microtubule in a cell.

The plot shows the lateral deformation of microtubule at the center Vs the applied compressive load. The microtubule begins to buckle at around 35 pico-newton.

We next checked the effects of different amounts of prestress in the actin elements on post buckling stability of the microtubule to which the load was applied. An ABAQUS subroutine was written using FORTRAN to extract the lateral deformation of the middle node for every load increment. Fig-23 shows the plot between the (load factor * actual compressive load applied) to microtubule Vs lateral deformation. The FORTRAN program for extracting the lateral deformation for each load increment is given in APPENDIX-8. Fig-26 shows that microtubule in a cell starts to buckle at around 35 pN. This is slightly higher than 23.57 pN, which is the predicted buckling load for a single microtubule. The increase in buckling load is expected because several actin filaments stabilize this microtubule. The presence of actin filaments as lateral constraints also increased the post buckling stability of the microtubule.
Figure 27 Effect of pre-stress of actin filaments on the post-buckling stiffness of the cell. Without pre-stress the microtubule starts to buckle at a load of around 35 pN, while a slight increase in prestress to 0.005 MPa causes the microtubule to stabilize and buckle at 38 pN. While further increase in prestress to 0.05 MPa enhances the buckling behavior decreasing the stability. So the microtubule buckles at around 28 pN.

When a small tensile pre-stress of 0.005 MPa (correspond load of 0.25 Pico-newtons applied on actin filaments) was applied to actin filaments, it increased the post buckling stability (Fig-27). The post-buckling curve showed that for a given load, the deformation is lesser than the case for which no pre-stress was applied. But as the tensile pre-stress was increased to 0.05 MPa (corresponding to 2.5 Pico-newtons applied to actin filaments) the deformations increased, indicating decreased post-buckling stability. Therefore pre-stress in actin filaments plays a role in the post buckling stability of microtubules in a cell. This trend was similar to the effect of prestress observed in the 2D flag model we studied earlier, although the actual values of prestress which caused similar responses was higher in the cell model. This is
expected since the microtubule in the cell is much more constrained than in the flagpole model.

**Action at a distance**

Since the structural components of a cell are interconnected, it is intuitively reasonable that mechanical perturbation at a particular point in the cytoskeleton would have some effect at locations in the Cytoskeleton that are remotely located from the point of perturbation. This general phenomenon is referred to as action at a distance. Several instances of this have been experimentally shown in various experiments. Special junction complexes consisting of integrins couple the Extracellular matrix (ECM) of a cell to its cytoskeleton (e.g. actin). Experiments show that when a pulling load was applied to such adhesion complexes, it would cause the cytoskeletal elements to reorganize in the direction of the load applied [32].

**Figure 28** Post-buckling behavior of the neighboring microtubules

Post-buckling behavior of the neighboring microtubules when a load is applied to a single microtubule. The plot shows the lateral deflection of the neighboring microtubules at the mid point Vs the load applied the actual microtubule.
Similarly, point loads applied to portions of the Cytoskeleton caused significant movement in the cell nucleus that was located far away from the point of loading. We wished to see if similar phenomenon was observed for our cell model. When a point compressive load was applied to an outer node of a microtubule, as shown in Fig-28, it caused the microtubule to buckle. But as the load was further increased, it led to deformation and eventual buckling of distant microtubules as well. Fig-30 shows the picture of cell where in not only does the neighboring microtubules buckle but also microtubules at a distance also buckles. In our model, it appears that an ordered progression of the buckling occurs: the microtubule that is directly loaded begins to buckle first, then by virtue of the connecting actin elements, the neighboring microtubules begin to buckle, and even remotely placed microtubules begin to buckle.

A similar event occurs when a tensile load (100 PN) is applied to a single microtubule in the cell. Fig 29 shows that when a point pulling load was applied, it cause the microtubules at a distance to buckle. There is large deformation in microtubules located far away from the loaded microtubule. This shows that our model exhibits the phenomena of action at a distance.

**Figure 29** Action at a distance- a pulling load applied at a point.
A pulling load of 100 pico-newton causes the neighboring microtubules to buckle and also microtubule at a distance to buckle.
Figure 30 Action at a distance – microtubule in a cell subjected to compressive point load.

The figure shows that when a compressive load is applied to a microtubule, even the neighboring microtubules bucking and also microtubules at a distance also tend to buckle.

6.4 Discussion

The buckling behavior of the microtubules in a 3D cell architecture was studied. The structural organization of microtubule and presence of actin filaments stabilizes the microtubules prone to buckling. When a microtubule is considered as a single column it buckled at 23.57 PN while the same microtubule in a cytoskeletal architecture of a cell, buckled at a much higher load of 35 PN. Thus the presence of actin filaments and the way in which they are organized affected the stiffness of the microtubule and also the overall stiffness of the cell. Not only did the presence of actin filaments affect the overall stiffness, even the pre-stress in actin filaments affected the stiffness of microtubules prone to buckling. A small pre-stress (0.005 MPa) increased the critical buckling load and also made the microtubule more stable in post buckling mode (ie smaller lateral deflection for a given load). However beyond a certain pre-stress (0.05 MPa), the microtubule became more prone to buckling. This showed that for a slight prestress would stabilize the free edge of the microtubule. However, further increase in the pre-stress puts more compression on the microtubule thereby increasing its propensity to buckle. Action at a distance is a phenomena
when a pulling load is applied to special junction complexes, it would cause all the cytoskeletal elements to reorganize in the direction of load applied. This action at a distance has been experimentally verified. Our cell model also showed a similar phenomenon where in when a point compressive load was applied to an outer node of a microtubule, it caused the neighboring and other microtubules also to buckle. As the load was increased further, it caused the microtubule at a distance also to buckle. This showed that the model could also predict action at a distance phenomenon that has been verified experimentally. Similar phenomena of action at a distance was seen when our cell model was subjected to a point-pulling load. This caused the microtubules at a distance also to buckle. Such a validated and tested model that includes all the structural features would be useful in studying the various aspects of mechanical environment of cell. This would form a beginning for testing various conditions and verifying with the experimentally observed features.
Chapter-7: Uniaxial loading of 3D Finite Element Model of cell

7.1 Introduction

Once the model was able to predict certain expected reactions to point loads, we extended our area of investigation to compressive loading. Related experiments in our laboratory aim to explore the deformation of chondrocytes and prechondrocytic cells in response to compressive loading regimes. The cells are embedded in agarose gel and the cell-gel construct is compressed. The cells are fluorescently labeled, so that the deformations of the cell to applied loading can be measured under a confocal microscope. We are able to determine mechanical properties of the cells from these experiments by fitting the radial deformation of the cell to a closed form solution of the radial deformation of an inclusion (e.g. the cell) in an infinite medium (e.g. the gel) obtained by Goodier, 1933 [39]. The relevant equations are given in Appendix-8. We wanted to explore, how the structural elements of the cell influence the overall material property of the cell. The finite element model was used for this purpose. For a given structure, a uniaxial compressive load was applied to the model and the radial deformations were recorded. Next these were curve fit with Goodier’s solution to obtain an equivalent modulus for the cell. In this case, the material property of the infinite medium was set to zero, and the load on each node was calculated to result from a uniformly applied load on the infinite medium. This was repeated for cells with different structures, internal pressures, prestress values. We then plotted the change in the curve fit value of the cell modulus as a function of the parameters.
7.2 Materials and methods

The 3D finite Element model of cell has already been discussed in previous chapters. The model consists of cell membrane, microtubules emanating from the center to the outer membrane, actin filaments acting as cross-links stabilizing the microtubule that are prone to buckling. A perturbation load is applied to all the microtubules at the mid point between the center and outer membrane. The perturbation load (= 0.01 Pico-Newton) is applied in a direction perpendicular to the radial axis of the microtubules. A uniaxial compressive load was applied to all the nodes at the outer membrane of the model. This kind of loading is to simulate the condition of cell embedded in a gel subjected to uniaxial compressive loads. The radial deformation of a edge of the our model is extracted by using a ABAQUS subroutine. The ABAQUS subroutine is described in APPENDIX-8. Goodier, 1933 [39] found a closed form solution for a spherical inclusion embedded in an infinite medium subjected to uniaxial compressive loading. The representative model is shown in Fig-31.

**Figure 31** Goodier’s model of spherical inclusion inside a infinite medium
The model is subjected to a compressive stress of T. The inclusion has a material property of E1, v1 and the medium with material property of E2, v2.
The equations for finding the radial deformation at the junction between the inclusion and the medium are

\[ U_r^b = -\frac{A}{r^2} - \frac{3B}{r^4} + \left( \frac{5 - 4\nu_b}{1 - 2\nu_b} \right) \frac{2C}{3r^3} + \left[ \frac{-9B}{r^4} + \left( \frac{5 - 4\nu_b}{1 - 2\nu_b} \right) \frac{C}{r^2} \right] \cos 2\theta + \frac{Tr}{2E} [(1 - \nu_b) + (1 + \nu_b) \cos 2\theta] \]

\[ U_\theta^b = -\left[ \frac{6B}{r^4} + \frac{2C}{r^2} \right] \sin 2\theta - \frac{Tr}{2E} (1 + \nu_b) \sin 2\theta \]

Where \( U_r^b \) is the equation for the radial deformations at any point on the medium. There is separate set of equations for finding the deformations inside the inclusion, which is given in the Appendix-9. \( T \) is the compressive load applied in N/m, \( r \) is the radius of the inclusion, \( A, B, C \) are separate set of equations representing the young’s modulus of the inclusion and the medium. The equations of \( A, B \) and \( C \) is given in Appendix-8. The equivalent young’s modulus of the our model subjected to Uniaxial compressive loading is arrived by curve fitting the radial deformation at a outer edge of our cell model with that of the goodier’s model. In goodier’s model the material property of the medium is set as zero, and the radius of the inclusion is same as that used in our cell model. The uniaxial compressive load applied is equivalent to that applied to our 3D cell model. The equivalent load \( T \) is \((n*P)/r\) where \( n \) is the number of nodes along the edge of the membrane, \( P \) is the load applied at each nodes of the membrane and \( r \) the radius of the cell. The schematic representation of the conversion is shown in Fig-32
The relation between the load (in \( \mu \text{N} \)) applied at \( n \)-nodes along the curved edge for the cytoskeletal model can be related as equivalent uniformly distributed load \( T \) for a continuum model. \( nP = Tr \)

The equivalent young’s modulus of the cell is found by curve fitting the deformation at the junction between the medium and inclusion with that of the radial deformation of the our cell model.

This procedure is explained diagrammatically in Fig-33. First step is to compress the cell model subjected to uniaxial loading. Next step is to record the nodal deformation along the radial direction at the edge of the membrane. Next step is to convert the equivalent point load into uniform compressive stress applied to goodier’s model. Finally curve fit for the young’s modulus of the cell such that the radial deformation for the goodier’s model is same as that of the 3D cell model.
Figure 33 Schematic representation of finding the equivalent young’s modulus for uniaxial loading.

From the cell model, the radial deformations are extracted using abaqus subroutine, the deformation is fit with that of closed form solution of spherical inclusion inside a medium solved by Goodier 1933.

The closeness of the fit for a representative value of uniaxial loads and material properties is shown in Fig-34. A graph is plot between the radial deformation extracted from the 3D cell model Vs the radial deformation of the inclusion with medium young’s modulus = 0. The plot shows the closeness of the fit where the deformation of the goodier’s model match well with that of the 3D cell model.
**Figure 34** Closeness of Fit between the cell model Vs the goodier’s closed form solution.

A plot between the radial deformation at the edge of the outer membrane Vs location at various angles where the deformation is extracted. The pink curve shows the equivalent young’s modulus for which the radial deformation for the goodier’s model fit well with our cell model.

This procedure is repeated for cells with different structures, internal pressure and prestress values. A parametric analysis was performed for the changes in various values of the cell and its effect of the overall young’s modulus of the cell. A significant discovery of the cell model subject to uniaxial compressive loading was that it was not stable, if we used the “no-compression” option for the actin filaments. When the actin filaments were allowed to resist compression as well, it stabilized the cell model. An analysis of the stresses in the actin filaments showed that while most of the actin network was under tension, a few filaments were under compressive stresses, and apparently that is critical for the stability of the whole structure.
7.3 Results

A uniaxial loading caused the cell to compress in the direction of the load and slightly 
elongate perpendicular to the direction of the load, as would be expected. Thus radial 
deformations were −ve in the direction of the load, but became +ve perpendicular to the 
direction of the load. A representative graph is shown in Fig-28. The predicted radial 
deformations of an inclusion embedded in an infinite medium from Goodiers solutions 
showed a similar trend. The equivalent modulus of elasticity of the cell for which the finite 
element solutions and the Goodier’s solutions matched are normalized to $E_0 = 24.46$ KPa. A 
parametric study was performed to see the effect of various structural parameters on the 
overall stiffness of the cell measured in terms of its equivalent young’s modulus. The 
parametric variation is made dimensionless by dividing the varying parameter with a constant 
values, which in our case is $E_0=24.46$ KPa.

The effect of variation on number of actin crosslinks on the overall stiffness of a cell is 
shown in Fig-33. Fig-33 shows a plot between effect of increase in number of actin 
crosslinks on the dimensionless $E/E_0$ quantity.

As seen in Fig-33, A 3 fold increase in number of crosslinks causes less than 1% increase in 
Equivalent young’s modulus. This shows that for uniaxial loading conditions the effect of 
actin crosslinks on the overall stiffness is not substantial.

Fig-34 shows the effect of # of microtubules on the equivalent young’s modulus of cell. A 4-
fold increase in # of microtubules caused a 6 % increase in the equivalent young’s modulus. 
This shows that the fluid pressure has a important role on the overall stiffness of the cell.
Fig-35 shows the effect of internal fluid pressure on the equivalent young’s modulus of cell. Here the internal fluid pressure is also made dimensionless by dividing the internal fluid pressure with a constant value of 0.001 MPa. A 10-fold increase in internal fluid pressure caused a 6 % increase in the equivalent young’s modulus. This shows that the fluid pressure has an important role on the overall stiffness of the cell.

Fig-36 shows the effect of pre-stress in microtubules on the modulus of elasticity of cell. The variation of dimensionless pre-stress on the overall stiffness of the cell is plotted. The pre-stress is made dimensionless by dividing the pre-stress by a constant value of 0.0005 MPa. Fig-36 shows a negligible increase in stiffness of less than 0.01 % for a 1000 fold increase in applied pre-stress for a cell.

![Figure 35](image.png)

**Figure 35** Variation of dimensionless equivalent young’s modulus of the 3D cell model with number of crosslinks

A 3 fold increase in # of crosslinks increased the equivalent young’s modulus by less than 1%
Figure 36 Variation of dimensionless equivalent young’s modulus of 3D cell model with number of microtubules.

4 fold increase in number of microtubules increased the equivalent young’s modulus by 6%.

Figure 37 A variation of dimensionless young’s modulus of cell (E/E0) with the variation of dimensionless internal fluid pressure (P/P0).

A 10 fold increase in internal Fluid pressure caused a 6% increase in equivalent young’s modulus.
Figure 38 Variation of dimensionless young’s modulus of cell (E/E0) with the variation of
dimensionless prestress of the actin filaments (Sig/Sig0).

A 1000 increase in the pre-stress of the actin filaments increased the equivalent young’s
modulus by less than 0.01%

7.4 Discussion

A uniaxial loading caused the cell to compress in the direction of the load and slightly
elongate perpendicular to the direction of the load. The predicted radial deformations of an
inclusion embedded in an infinite medium from Goodier’s solutions showed a similar trend.
For a given number of cytoskeletal elements, internal fluid pressure and actin pre-stress an
equivalent young’s modulus was found by fitting it with a closed form solution of spherical
inclusion inside a medium subjected to compressive stress. The graphs show how the
equivalent modulus of elasticity changed when the structural features of the cell were changed.

When the Pre-stress in microtubules were increased by 1000 fold the equivalent young’s modulus increased by less than 0.01%. A 4-fold increase in number of microtubules increased the equivalent young’s modulus by 6%. A 3 fold increase in # of crosslinks increased the equivalent young’s modulus by less than 1%. A 10-fold increase in internal Fluid pressure caused a 6% increase in equivalent young’s modulus.

This study shows that the presence of microtubules and the internal fluid pressure affect the overall stiffness of cell more compared to the actin crosslinks and actin prestress. The reason behind such a behavior could be due to uniaxial loading mainly taken up by microtubule elements and intra-fluid pressure. Also from the material and dimensional properties, the microtubules are known to be 1000 times stiffer than actin. So intuitively it makes sense that the effect of microtubules on overall stiffness of cell compared to actin filaments. Further it would be interesting to investigate the effect of each structural component on the overall stiffness of cell, by subjecting it to different loading conditions that are commonly seen in real life environment. This includes different conditions like shear loading, local pulling stress etc.,
Chapter 8: Conclusion and Future Studies

8.1 Discussion

In this study we developed and validated a finite element model of a cell that incorporates the most important structural components of the cell – cell membrane, cytoskeletal structure and intracellular fluid. The cell was modeled as a 1/8\textsuperscript{th} of sphere consisting of cell membrane, microtubules and actin filaments forming an interconnected network and intracellular fluid applying pressure. The behavior of the model was predicted, when it was subjected to different kinds of loading conditions like compressive, uniaxial compressive, point-loads (pulling and compressive) etc.,

As a first step the cell model was validated with closed form solution of spherical inclusion inside a medium solved by Goodier., 1933. The closeness of the match between our cell model with the Goodier’s model gave the confidence that the results obtained are believable. The effect of each structural component on the overall stiffness of the cell subjected to compressive loading was studied. The parametric study showed that internal fluid pressure has a bigger influence on the overall stiffness of the cell compared to the cytoskeletal elements. The reason behind such a behavior could be that the number of cytoskeletal elements is very less compared to that actually seen in a cell. The volume fraction of the cytoskeletal elements in a cell is very less. So their impact on the overall stiffness of the cell is less than that of internal fluid pressure.

Next the buckling behavior of the microtubules were studied. An eigen value buckling analysis in ABAQUS predicted the critical load for a microtubule column to buckle
to be 23.57. This was validated with theoretical calculations. A riks analysis was used to study the post-buckling behavior of the microtubule column. The addition of actin filaments as lateral elements stabilized the microtubule column prone to buckling. This could be the reason that in a cell, the microtubule is prevented from buckling by presence of large number of actin cross-links. Also a small pre-stress in actin filaments caused a slight increase in stiffness to buckling as it stiffened the free edge of the microtubule but as when the pre-stress was further increased, it decreased the stiffness of microtubule. This was due to a compressive load being added due to the pre-stress in actin elements, increasing the microtubule’s propensity to buckle.

Next the cell model was built in layers, starting with microtubule and actin filaments. When all the structural elements were added in layers, the stresses were distributed to all the structural elements. The distribution of stresses on the all the structural elements made sense intuitively.

Next the buckling behavior of microtubule in a 3D cell structure was studied. Due to presence more lateral constraints in the form of actin filaments, the microtubule is more stable to buckling. Also the behavior of buckling of microtubules, in the presence of actin pre-stress showed a similar trend as seen in flag model. When a small tensile pre-stress, was applied to actin filaments, it increased the post-buckling stability. But as the tensile pre-stress was increased, the deformations increased, indicating decreased post-buckling stability. Therefore pre-stress in actin plays a role in post buckling stability of microtubules in a cell. Also when a point pulling and point compressive loads was applied at the free edge of microtubule in a cell model, it caused the neighboring microtubules also to buckle. Also it was seen that the microtubules away from the point of application of the load also deformed
and even buckled. This behavior is attributed to the action at a distance observed in a cell. So having verified the behavior of various structural elements of the cell, next step is to combine all the features to study the behavior of whole cell to different environmental conditions.

Simulating the environment of cells embedded in a gel subject to compressive loads, our 3D cell model was subjected to uniaxial compressive load applied to all nodes at the outer membrane. From the deformation data obtained for a cell model subjected to uniaxial compression, equivalent Young’s modulus was calculated. This was done by fitting the deformation curve with that of closed form solution of spherical inclusion inside a infinite medium. Thus the overall stiffness of the cell model was measured in terms of its Equivalent Young’s modulus. A parametric study on the effect of each structural component of cell on the overall stiffness of cell was performed. The study showed that the microtubules and internal fluid pressure played a major role on the overall stiffness of cell compared to the actin filaments and the pre-stress in actins. The reason for such a behavior could be due to, the kind of loading. The microtubules take up major part of the uniaxial loading and hence the effect of actin filaments on the overall stiffness of cell is less.

Thus such a model can be further used to study the behavior of the cell to different mechanical environments representing different experimental set up. The present model of cell is very stiff, even though the realistic material properties are used for the cell model. This shows that there is a need to give importance to viewing the cell as a structure rather than a purely continuum body. Also viewing in such a dimension would give a idea on how the cell responds to its mechanical environment and also how the biological factors change in response to the mechanical loads.
8.2 Limitations

Though the model can predict various cellular behavior observed experimentally, there are some limitations that are to overcome for predicting the behavior more accurately. The actual values of the pre-stress in actin and microtubules are not known, and hence only arbitrary pre-stress values were applied.

In our cell model the organization of the cytoskeletal elements are simple and neat. But the cytoekeletal elements are known to be organized in a more complex organization in a cell. This can be overcome by developing a finite element model of a cell from a realistic cytoskeletal structure of a cell.

The actual value of intracellular fluid pressure is not known. So an arbitrary value of internal fluid pressure is assumed. Also the cell membrane is assumed to be fully permeable and hence when compressed, the fluid from inside the cell freely flows out. But in reality the cell membrane is not fully permeable.

The microtubles and actin crossections are assumed to be perfectly circular, but the actual structure of microtubules and actins are much more complicated.

The juction where microtubules are attached to other actins and membranes are considered to be rigidly fixed, hence, though our model can predict the action at a distance phenomenon, the load required for seeing such an behavior is much higher than actually required. This can be overcome by using multiple point constraints where in the junction where the actin and microtubules are attached move together but are free to rotate with respect to each other.
8.3 Future studies

The present model of cell is very stiff, even though the realistic material properties are used for the cell model. This shows less rigid constraints are needed to be applied at the juctions between the actin and microtubules. This can be achieved by using Multiple point constraints in ABAQUS.

A realistic cytoskeletal architecture can be modeled by reconstructing the images of the cytoskeletal structure to a finite element model. This would give a more accurate prediction of the behavior of cell to different mechanical environments.
References


Appendix 1

Program for generation of 3D finite Element model of a cell

PROGRAM NODEGEN
DOUBLE PRECISION THETA1, PHI1
REAL THETAINC, PHIINC
REAL X,Y,Z,PHI,THETA,R1
REAL XHALF,YHALF,ZHALF
DIMENSION RRAY(2000,4),JRAY(2000,4)
EQUIVALENCE (RRAY(1,1),JRAY(1,1))

C********************************************************************
C********************************************************************
C THIS WRITES IN ABAQUS INPUT FILE FORMAT WITH FILE NAME "EXTRACT.INP"
C THE MODEL IS A 1/8TH OF A 3D CELL MODEL WITH SYMMETRIC BOUNDARY C C
CONDITIONS.
C********************************************************************
C********************************************************************

OPEN(UNIT=10, FILE='extract.inp', STATUS='UNKNOWN')
WRITE(*,*)'ENTER THE RADIUS'
READ(*,*)R
WRITE(*,*)' ENTER THE NUMBER OF DIVISIONS'
READ(*,*)N
WRITE(*,*)'ENTER THE RADIAL DIVISIONS'
READ(*,*)N1
NITEMP=N1
WRITE(*,*)'ENTER EVERY I INC'
READ(*,*)N2

C********************************************************************
C THE GENERATION OF NODES STARTS HERE
C********************************************************************

IINC=1
NODENO=1
RINC=0.0
R1=R
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*NODE, SYSTEM=R'
DO 110 IRAD=1,N1
   IF (IRAD .EQ. N1/2) THEN
      WRITE(10,'(A)')'*NODE, SYSTEM=R, NSET=TRY'
   ENDIF
   PHI=0.0
   THETA=0.0
   THETAINC=90.0/(N-1)
   PHIINC=90.0/(N-1)
   R1=R1-RINC
   RINC=R/N1
WRITE(10,*)R1
DO 100 IVERTNO=1,N-1
   DO 200 IHORINO=1,N
      THETA1=THETA*(22.0/(7.0*180.0))
      PHI1=PHI*(22.0/(7.0*180.0))
      X=((R1*COS(THETA1))*COS(PHI1))
      IF (X .LT. 0.0) THEN
         X=0.0
      ENDIF
      Y=(R1*SIN(PHI1))
      Z=((R1*COS(PHI1))*SIN(THETA1))
      WRITE(10,1000)NODENO,X,Y,Z
      IF (IRAD .EQ. ((N1/2)+1)) THEN
         RP=SQRT((X*X)+(Y*Y)+(Z*Z))
         IF (Z .NE. 0.0) THEN
            RZCOORD=RP*RP/Z
            RZDASH=(Z-RZCOORD)
            IF (RZDASH .NE. 0.0) THEN
               RPDASH=SQRT((X*X)+(Y*Y)+(RZDASH*RZDASH))
               WRITE(*,*)NODENO,X,Y,Z,RZDASH,RPDASH
               WRITE(*,*)RZDASH/RPDASH
               JRAY(IINC,1)=NODENO
               RRAY(IINC,2)=X/RPDASH
               RRAY(IINC,3)=Y/RPDASH
               RRAY(IINC,4)=RZDASH/RPDASH
               WRITE(*,*)NODENO,X,Y,Z
               WRITE(*,*)JRAY(IINC,1),RRAY(IINC,2),RRAY(IINC,3)
            ENDIF
         ENDIF
      ENDIF
      NODENO=NODENO+1
      THETA=THETA+THETAINC
   200       CONTINUE
   PHI=PHI+PHIINC
   THETA=0.0
100       CONTINUE
   WRITE(10,1000)NODENO,0,R1,0
   IF (IRAD .EQ. ((N1/2)+1)) THEN
      WRITE(*,*)NODENO,0,R1,0
   ENDIF
   NODENO=NODENO+1
110       CONTINUE
   WRITE(10,1000)10000,0,0,0
1000       FORMAT(I,',',E14.8,',',E14.8,',',E14.8)
C********************************************************************
c      THE ELEMENT GENERATION STARTS HERE
C********************************************************************
C----------------------------------------------------------------------
CTHIS PART CREATES THE MEMBRANE ELEMENTS
C----------------------------------------------------------------------
IELNO=1
ITEMP=0
LEVEL1=0
LEVEL2=N
WRITE(10,'(A)') 'ELEMENT, TYPE=M3D4, ELSET=E0003'
DO 300 J=1,N-2
   DO 310 I=1,N-1
      WRITE(10,*) IELNO, ',', LEVEL2+I+1, ',', LEVEL1+I+1, ',', LEVEL1+I,
      1 LEVEL1+I, ',', LEVEL2+I
      IELNO=IELNO+1
310    CONTINUE
LEVEL1=N*J
LEVEL2=LEVEL1+N
300    CONTINUE
N1= ((N-1)*N)+1
WRITE(10,'(A)') 'ELEMENT, TYPE=M3D3, ELSET=E0002'
DO 320 I=1,N-1
   WRITE(10,*) IELNO, ',', N1, ',', LEVEL1+I+1, ',', LEVEL1+I
   IELNO=IELNO+1
320    CONTINUE
C----------------------------------------------------------------------
C THIS PART IS TO CREATE LONGITUDINAL CROSS ELEMENTS
C----------------------------------------------------------------------
ICYELNO=IELNO
ITEMP1=1
ITEMP2=N*(N-1)+2
ITEMP3=N*(N-1)+1
ICYTEMP=1
WRITE(10,'(A)') 'ELEMENT, TYPE=B31, ELSET=ACTIN'
DO 4010 IRAD2=1,N1TEMP-1
   INOD1=ITEMP1
   INOD2=ITEMP2
   DO 4000 IVERTNO=1,N-1
      DO 4100 IHORINO=1,N
         IF ((INOD1 .NE. (ITEMP1+N-1)) .AND. (INOD2 .NE. (ITEMP2+N-1))) THEN
            WRITE(10,*) ICYELNO, ',', INOD1, ',', INOD2
         END IF
         INOD1=INOD1+1
         INOD2=INOD2+1
         ICYELNO=ICYELNO+1
4100       CONTINUE
4000    CONTINUE
   WRITE(10,*) ICYELNO, ',', INOD1, ',', INOD2
   ITEM1=ITEMP2
   ITEM2=ITEMP2+ITEMP3
   ICYELNO=ICYELNO+1
4010     CONTINUE
4000     CONTINUE
   WRITE(10,*) ICYELNO, ',', INOD1, ',', INOD2
   ITEM1=ITEMP1
   DO 4020 IVERTNO=1,N-1
      DO 4030 IHORINO=1,N
         IF (INOD3 .NE. ITEMP1+N-1) THEN
            WRITE(10,*) ICYELNO, ',', 10000, ',', INOD3
         END IF
         INOD3=INOD3+1
4030       CONTINUE
4020     CONTINUE
ICYELNO=ICYELNO+1
4030 CONTINUE
4020 CONTINUE

WRITE(10,'(A)')'*ELEMENT, TYPE=B31, ELSET=TEMP'
INOD4=N
INOD5=N*(N-1)+1+N
DO 4060 ITENOD=1,N
    WRITE(10,'(*)')ICYELNO,',',INOD4,',',INOD5
    INOD4=INOD5
    INOD5=INOD5+ITEMP3
    ICYELNO=ICYELNO+1
4060 CONTINUE

WRITE(10,'(*)')ICYELNO,',',10000,',',INOD4
ICYELNO=ICYELNO+1
WRITE(10,'(*)')ICYELNO,',',10000,',',INOD5-N
ICYELNO=ICYELNO+1

C***********************************************************
C THIS PART CREATES THE CROSS ELEMENTS
C***********************************************************
C---------------------------------------------------------------
C THIS PART CREATES THE ACTIN ELEMENTS IN PLACE OF THE MEMBRANE
C---------------------------------------------------------------

WRITE(10,'(A)')'*ELEMENT, TYPE=B31, ELSET=NOMEMB'
ITEMP=0
NEVERI=1
NEVERTEMP=N2
DO 560 IRAD1=1,N
    IF (IRAD1 .EQ. NEVERI) THEN
        ICENLNO1=ITEMP
    DO 500 IVERT=1,N-1
        DO 510 IHORI=1,N-1
            WRITE(10,*) ICYELNO,',',ICENLNO1+1,',',ICENLNO1+1+1
            ICYELNO=ICYELNO+1
        510 CONTINUE
        ICENLNO1=ICENLNO1+(N*IVERT)
    500 CONTINUE
    IVER1=ICYELNO
    WRITE(10,*)'- ----',ITEMP
    ILEV11=ITEMP
    ILEV22=ITEMP+N
    DO 520 IVERT=1,N-2
        DO 530 I=1,N
            WRITE(10,*) IVER1,',',ILEV11+I,',',ILEV22+I
        530 CONTINUE
        ILEV11=ILEV11+N
        ILEV22=ILEV11+N
    520 CONTINUE

ITMP1=ITEMP+(N*(N-1))+1
DO 540 IHORI=1,N
   WRITE(10,*) IVER1,',',ILEV11+IHORI,',',ITMP1
   IVEL=IVEL+1
   IVER1=IVER1+1
540 CONTINUE

NEVERI=NEVERI+NEVERTEMP
END IF
ITEMP=ITEMP+(N*(N-1))+1
ICYELNO=IVER1
560 CONTINUE

C*********************************************************
C THE REST OF THE INPUT FILE STARTS HERE
C*********************************************************
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*BEAM SECTION,MATERIAL=MT,SECTION=CIRC,'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'ELSET=ACTIN'
WRITE(10,*)'0.0125'
WRITE(10,')'0.00,0.00,-1.00'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*BEAM SECTION,MATERIAL=MT,SECTION=CIRC,'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'ELSET=TEMP'
WRITE(10,')'0.0125'
WRITE(10,')'1.00,0.00,0.00'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*BEAM SECTION,MATERIAL=ACTI,SECTION=CIRC,'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'ELSET=NOMEMB'
WRITE(10,')'0.0125'
WRITE(10,')'0.00,0.00,-1.00'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*MEMBRANE SECTION,ELSET=E0002,MATERIAL=M001'
WRITE(10,')'1.00E-05   3'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*BEAM SECTION,MATERIAL=ACTI,SECTION=CIRC,'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'ELSET=INTER'
WRITE(10,')'0.0125'
WRITE(10,')'0.00,0.00,-1.00'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*MATERIAL,NAME=M001'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*ELASTIC,TYPE=ISOTROPIC'
WRITE(10,')'1.00E-01 0.3'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*NO COMPRESSION'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*MATERIAL,NAME=ACTI'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*ELASTIC,TYPE=ISOTROPIC'
WRITE(10,')'3.63E+02 0.3'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*MATERIAL,NAME=MT'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*ELASTIC,TYPE=ISOTROPIC'
WRITE(10,')'3.63E+03 0.3'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*MEMBRANE SECTION,ELSET=E0003,MATERIAL=M001'
WRITE(10,')'1.00E-05   3'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'*INITIAL CONDITION,TYPE=STRESS'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'NOMEMB,5'
WRITE(10,'(A)')'INTER,5'

C*********************************************************
C THE BOUNDARY CONDITION STARTS HERE
C*********************************************************
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*BOUNDARY,OP=NEW'
ISTART=1
ITEMP=N*(N-1)+1
DO 5000 IRAD=1,N
  IBOTTOM=ISTART
  IREDGE=ISTART
  ILEDGE=ISTART+N-1
  DO 5020 ILEV=1,N
    WRITE(10,*) '   ',IBOTTOM,',  2,,'
    WRITE(10,*) '   ',IREDGE,',  3,,'
    IBOTTOM=IBOTTOM+1
    IREDGE=IREDGE+N
    ILEDGE=ILEDGE+N
  5020 CONTINUE
  ISTART=ISTART+ITEMP
5000 CONTINUE

ISTART=1
ITEMP=N*(N-1)+1
DO 5040 IRAD=1,N
  ILEDGE=ISTART+N-1
  DO 5060 ILEV=1,N-1
    WRITE(10,*) '   ',ILEDGE,',  1,,'
    ILEDGE=ILEDGE+N
  5060 CONTINUE
  ISTART=ISTART+ITEMP
5040 CONTINUE

ISTART=N*(N-1)+1
DO 5070 IRAD=1,N
  WRITE(10,*) '   ',ISTART,',  1,,'
  ISTART=ISTART+ITEMP
5070 CONTINUE

WRITE(10,*)' 10000, encastre'

C********************************************************
C THE BOUNDARY CONDITION ENDS HERE
C********************************************************

WRITE(10,'(A)') '*STEP,NLGEOM'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*STATIC'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*CLOAD'
DO 2000 I=1,IINC-1
  WRITE(10,*) JRAY(I,1),',',1,',',RRAY(I,2)*1E-07
  WRITE(10,*) JRAY(I,1),',',2,',',RRAY(I,3)*1E-07
  WRITE(10,*) JRAY(I,1),',',3,',',RRAY(I,4)*1E-07
2000 CONTINUE

WRITE(10,'(A)') '*END STEP'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*STEP'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*STATIC,RIKS'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '0.001,1,,1.0'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*RESTART,WRITE,FREQUENCY=  1'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*CLOAD'
WRITE(10,'(A)') 11,1,',',-0.00002933*15
WRITE(10,'(A)') 11,2,',',-0.00003079*15
WRITE(10,'(A)') 11,3,',',-0.0000905*15
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*NODE FILE,FREQUENCY=  1,GLOBAL=YES'
WRITE(10,'(A)') 'U'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*EL FILE,FREQUENCY= 1,POSITION=NODES'
WRITE(10,'(A)') 'S'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*NODE PRINT,FREQUENCY= 1,GLOBAL=YES'
WRITE(10,'(A)') 'U'
WRITE(10,'(A)') '*END STEP'
END
Appendix 2

Nodes generation model-calculation

R=7.5 (Radius of sphere)
N=8 (Number of divisions along a edge)
φ_{inc} = 90/ (8-1) = 12.58 (Incremental divisions along the horizontal level)
θ_{inc} = 90/ (8-1) = 12.58 (Incremental divisions along the vertical level)

For :
\[ \theta = 12.58 \]
\[ \phi = 12.58 \]

\[ X\text{-coord} = R \times \cos(\theta) \times \cos(\phi) \]
\[ = 7.5 \times \cos(12.85) \times \cos(12.85) \]
\[ X\text{-coord} = 7.129 \]

\[ Y\text{-coord} = R \times \sin(\phi) \]
\[ = 7.5 \times \sin(12.85) \]
\[ Y\text{-coord} = 1.6679 \]

\[ Z\text{-coord} = R \times \cos(\phi) \times \sin(\theta) \]
\[ = 7.5 \times 0.9762 \times 0.2223 \]
\[ Z\text{-coord} = 1.6277 \]
Appendix 3

ABAQUS INPUT FILE REPRESENTING 3D CELL MODEL

*******************************************************************************
**CREATE NODES WITH NODE NUMBER AND THERE COORDINATES
*******************************************************************************

*NODE, SYSTEM=R
  1,0.750000000E+01,0.000000000E+00,0.000000000E+00
  2,0.53016238E+01,0.00000000E+00,0.53049774E+01
  3,0.000000000E+00,0.00000000E+00,0.74999986E+01
  4,0.53016238E+01,0.53049774E+01,0.00000000E+00
  5,0.37476287E+01,0.53049774E+01,0.37499993E+01
  6,0.000000000E+00,0.53049774E+01,0.53016229E+01
  7,0.000000000E+00,0.75000000E+01,0.00000000E+00
  8,0.600000000E+01,0.00000000E+00,0.00000000E+00
  9,0.42412992E+01,0.000000000E+00,0.42439818E+01
 10,0.000000000E+00,0.000000000E+00,0.59999986E+01
11,0.42412992E+01,0.42439818E+01,0.00000000E+00
12,0.29981029E+01,0.42439818E+01,0.29999993E+01
13,0.000000000E+00,0.42439818E+01,0.42412982E+01
14,0.000000000E+00,0.600000000E+00,0.00000000E+00
15,0.450000000E+01,0.000000000E+00,0.00000000E+00
16,0.31809742E+01,0.000000000E+00,0.31829865E+01
17,0.000000000E+00,0.000000000E+00,0.44999990E+01
18,0.31809742E+01,0.31829865E+01,0.00000000E+00
19,0.22485774E+01,0.31829865E+01,0.22499995E+01
20,0.000000000E+00,0.31829865E+01,0.31809738E+01
21,0.000000000E+00,0.450000000E+00,0.00000000E+00
22,0.300000000E+00,0.000000000E+00,0.00000000E+00
23,0.21206496E+01,0.000000000E+00,0.21219909E+01
24,0.000000000E+00,0.000000000E+00,0.29999993E+01
25,0.21206496E+01,0.21219909E+01,0.00000000E+00
26,0.14990515E+01,0.21219909E+01,0.14999996E+01
27,0.000000000E+00,0.21219909E+01,0.21206491E+01
28,0.000000000E+00,0.300000000E+00,0.00000000E+00
29,0.150000000E+01,0.000000000E+00,0.00000000E+00
30,0.10603248E+01,0.000000000E+00,0.10609955E+01
31,0.000000000E+00,0.000000000E+00,0.14999996E+01
32,0.10603248E+01,0.10609955E+01,0.00000000E+00
33,0.74952573E+00,0.10609955E+01,0.74999982E+00
34,0.000000000E+00,0.10609955E+01,0.10603245E+01
35,0.000000000E+00,0.150000000E+01,0.00000000E+00
10000,0.000000000E+00,0.000000000E+00,0.00000000E+00
**CREATE 4 NODED MEMBRANE ELEMENTS**

*ELEMENT, TYPE=M3D4, ELSET=E0003
  1, 5, 2, 1, 4
  2, 6, 3, 2, 5

**CREATE 3 NODED MEMBRANE ELEMENTS**

*ELEMENT, TYPE=M3D3, ELSET=E0002
  3, 7, 5, 4
  4, 7, 6, 5

**CREATE RADIAL ELEMENTS WITH MICROTUUBLLE PROPERTIES**

*ELEMENT, TYPE=B31, ELSET=ACTIN
  5, 1, 8
  6, 2, 9
  8, 4, 11
  9, 5, 12
  10, 6, 13
  11, 7, 14
  12, 8, 15
  13, 9, 16
  15, 11, 18
  16, 12, 19
  17, 13, 20
  18, 14, 21
  19, 15, 22
  20, 16, 23
  22, 18, 25
  23, 19, 26
  24, 20, 27
  25, 21, 28
  26, 22, 29
  27, 23, 30
  29, 25, 32
  30, 26, 33
  31, 27, 34
  32, 28, 35
  33, 10000, 29
  34, 10000, 30
  36, 10000, 32
  37, 10000, 33
  38, 10000, 34

*ELEMENT, TYPE=B31, ELSET=TEMP
  39, 3, 10
  40, 10, 17
  41, 17, 24
  42, 24, 31
  43, 10000, 31
  44, 10000, 35
**CREATE CROSS ELEMENTS WITH ACTIN PROPERTIES**

*ELEMENT, TYPE=B31, ELSET=NOMEMB  
  45, 1, 2  
  46, 2, 3  
  47, 4, 5  
  48, 5, 6  
  49, 1, 4  
  50, 2, 5  
  51, 3, 6  
  52, 4, 7  
  53, 5, 7  
  54, 6, 7

*BEAM SECTION, MATERIAL=ACTI, SECTION=CIRC,  
ELSET=ACTIN  
  0.0125  
0.00, 0.00, -1.00

*BEAM SECTION, MATERIAL=ACTI, SECTION=CIRC,  
ELSET=TEMP  
  0.0125  
1.00, 0.00, 0.00

*BEAM SECTION, MATERIAL=ACTI, SECTION=CIRC,  
ELSET=NOMEMB  
  0.0125  
0.00, 0.00, -1.00

*MATERIAL, NAME=M001  
*ELASTIC, TYPE=ISOTROPIC  
  1.00E-01  0.3

*MATERIAL, NAME=ACTI  
*ELASTIC, TYPE=ISOTROPIC  
  3.63E+02  0.3

*MEMBRANE SECTION, ELSET=E0002, MATERIAL=M001  
  1.00E-05  3

*STEP, AMPLITUDE=RAMP, INC=10  
*STATIC  
*RESTART, WRITE, FREQUENCY=  1

*BOUNDARY, OP=NEW  
  1, 2,  
  1, 3,  
  2, 2,  
  4, 3,  
  3, 2,  
  7, 3,  
  8, 2,  
  8, 3,  
  9, 2,  
11, 3,
10, 2,
14, 3,
15, 2,
15, 3,
16, 2,
18, 3,
17, 2,
21, 3,
22, 2,
22, 3,
23, 2,
25, 3,
24, 2,
28, 3,
29, 2,
29, 3,
30, 2,
32, 3,
31, 2,
35, 3,
3, 1,
6, 1,
10, 1,
13, 1,
17, 1,
20, 1,
24, 1,
27, 1,
31, 1,
34, 1,
7, 1,
14, 1,
21, 1,
28, 1,
35, 1,

10000, encastré
*DLOAD, Op=NEW
E0002, P, 5.00E-02
E0003, P, 5.00E-02
*NODE FILE, FREQUENCY= 1, GLOBAL=YES
U
*EL FILE, FREQUENCY= 1, POSITION=NODES
S, E
*NODE PRINT, FREQUENCY= 1, GLOBAL=YES
U
*END STEP
Appendix 4

Maple program for finding stress distribution around a spherical inclusion inside a medium.

```maple
restart;

a1 := (1-Pb)*(1-(2*Pb));
a1 := (1-Pb)*(1-2*Pb)
a2 := 2*(1+Pb);
a2 := 2+2*Pb

a3 := (2-(4*Pt))*Ub;
a3 := (2-4*Pt)*Ub

a4 := Ut*(1+Pt);
a4 := Ut*(1+Pt)

H := T*a1/(a2*(a3+a4));
H := T*(1-Pb)/(2+2*Pb)*((2-4*Pt)*Ub + Ut*(1+Pt))

b1 := 5*T*(1-Pb);
b1 := 5*T*(1-Pb)

b2 := 4*((7-(5*Pb))*Ub+((8-(10*Pb))*Ut));
b2 := 4*(7-5*Pb)*Ub+4*(8-10*Pb)*Ut

F := b1/b2;
F := 5*T*(1-Pb)/(4*(7-5*Pb)*Ub+4*(8-10*Pb)*Ut)

S1 := (H*r)+(r*F);
S1 := (H*r)+(r*F)

S2 := 3*F*r;
S2 := 3*F*r

sityyy := 0.
```
\[ U_{rt} := S_1 + (S_2 \cos(2 \theta)); \]

\[ U_{rt} := \frac{T (1 - P_b) (1 - 2 P_b) r}{(2 + 2 P_b) ((2 - 4 P_t) U_b + U_t (1 + P_t))} + \frac{5 r T (1 - P_b)}{4 (7 - 5 P_b) U_b + 4 (8 - 10 P_b) U_t} \]

\[ \quad + \frac{15 r T (1 - P_b) \cos(2 \theta)}{4 (7 - 5 P_b) U_b + 4 (8 - 10 P_b) U_t} \]

\[ U_t := \frac{E_t}{2 + 2 P_t} \]

\[ U_b := \frac{E_b}{2 + 2 P_b} \]

\[ \text{evalf}(a_1); \quad (1. - 1. P_b) (1. - 2. P_b) \]

\[ \text{evalf}(a_2); \quad 2. + 2. P_b \]

\[ \text{evalf}(a_3); \quad \frac{(2. - 4. P_t) E_b}{2. + 2. P_b} \]

\[ \text{evalf}(a_4); \quad \frac{E_t (1. + P_t)}{2. + 2. P_t} \]

\[ \text{evalf}(b_1); \quad 5. T (1. - 1. P_b) \]

\[ \text{evalf}(b_2); \quad \frac{(7. - 5. P_b) E_b}{2. + 2. P_b} + \frac{4. (8. - 10. P_b) E_t}{2. + 2. P_t} \]

\[ \text{evalf}(H); \quad \frac{T (1. - 1. P_b) (1. - 2. P_b)}{(2. + 2. P_b) \left( \frac{(2. - 4. P_t) E_b}{2. + 2. P_b} + \frac{E_t (1. + P_t)}{2. + 2. P_t} \right)} \]

\[ \text{evalf}(F); \]
\[
\frac{T(1 - 1.\, Pb)}{4.\, (7 - 5.\, Pb)\, Eb + 4.\, (8 - 10.\, Pb)\, Et} + \frac{4.\, (8 - 10.\, Pb)\, Et}{2. + 2.\, Pb}
\]

> \texttt{evalf(S1);}
\[
\frac{T(1 - 1.\, Pb)}{(2. + 2.\, Pb)\, \left(\frac{2 - 4.\, Pt\, Eb}{2. + 2.\, Pb} + \frac{Et\, (1 + Pt)}{2. + 2.\, Pt}\right)} + \frac{4.\, (7 - 5.\, Pb)\, Eb}{2. + 2.\, Pb} + \frac{4.\, (8 - 10.\, Pb)\, Et}{2. + 2.\, Pt}
\]

> \texttt{evalf(S2);}
\[
\frac{r\, T(1 - 1.\, Pb)}{4.\, (7 - 5.\, Pb)\, Eb + 4.\, (8 - 10.\, Pb)\, Et} + \frac{15.\, r\, T(1 - 1.\, Pb)\, \cos(2.\, \theta)}{2. + 2.\, Pt}
\]

> \texttt{evalf(Urt);}
\[
\frac{T(1 - 1.\, Pb)}{(2. + 2.\, Pb)\, \left(\frac{2 - 4.\, Pt\, Eb}{2. + 2.\, Pb} + \frac{Et\, (1 + Pt)}{2. + 2.\, Pt}\right)} + \frac{4.\, (7 - 5.\, Pb)\, Eb}{2. + 2.\, Pb} + \frac{4.\, (8 - 10.\, Pb)\, Et}{2. + 2.\, Pt}
\]

> \texttt{T := 0.0072;}
\[
T := 0.0072
\]

> \texttt{r := 0.004764;}
\[
r := 0.004764
\]

> \texttt{Et := 0.000391;}
\[
Et := 0.000391
\]

> \texttt{Eb := 0.0532*1.5;}
\[
Eb := 0.07980
\]

> \texttt{Pt := 0.499;}
\[
Pt := 0.499
\]

> \texttt{Pb := 0.499;}
\[
Pb := 0.499
\]

Et := .000391

Eb := .07980

Pt := .499
$P_b := .499$

> evalf(Urt);

> plot(Urt, theta=0..1.57);

$.0002165170012 + .0005356581726 \cos(2. \theta)$
Appendix 5

Representative ABAQUS input file for performing Buckling Analysis using RIKS-procedure

*HEADING
BUCKLING RIKS ANALYSIS

Define node number and coordinates
*NODE, SYSTEM=R
node-number, X-coordinate, Y-coordinate, Z-coordinate

Connect nodes by 2 noded beam elements
*ELEMENT,TYPE=B31 ,ELSET=E0000001
Element-number, node1, node2

Define Cross section property for beam element
*BEAM SECTION,MATERIAL=M0000019,SECTION=PIPE,ELSET=E0000001
outer radius, thickness

material property for the defined elements
*MATERIAL,NAME=M0000019
*ELASTIC,TYPE=ISOTROPIC
1.200E+03, 2.900E-01

Define Boundary condition
*BOUNDARY
1, 1, 6, 0.00000E+00

Static analysis step to apply perturbation load
*STEP,NLGEOM
*STATIC
apply perturbation load
*CLOAD
node number, direction, perturbation load magnitude.
13, 1, 1.0E-09
*END STEP

Static-riks analysis step to perform un-stable buckling analysis
*STEP
*STATIC,RIKS
Initial arc length, final arc-length,,load proportionality factor
0.01, 1., 1.0
Apply concentrated load
*CLOAD
node no, direction, magnitude

Write nodal results to .fil file
*NODE FILE,FREQUENCY=
U ,
*END STEP
Appendix 6

Resolving force along a line into there respective coordinates using Direction Cosines

A line (OP) in 3D space that joins 2 points (0,0,0) and (x,y,z) makes an angle of $\alpha$, $\beta$ and $\gamma$ with respect to the x-axis, y-axis and z-axis as shown in fig ##

A force ‘F’ is applied in the direction of the line OP. The force F can be resolved into there respective x, y and z components. For finding the components of the force ‘F’ direction cosines of the line OP is to be found.

To find the Direction cosine (l,m,n) for the line OP that joins the points (0,0,0) and (x,y,z) following steps are followed.

1. Find $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}$

2. The direction cosines are

   $l = \cos(\alpha) = x/r$
   $m = \cos(\beta) = y/r$
   $n = \cos(\gamma) = z/r$
There fore the force ‘F’ applied in the direction along the line OP can be resolved into its components

\[ F_x = \left(\frac{x}{r}\right) * F \]
\[ F_y = \left(\frac{y}{r}\right) * F \]
\[ F_z = \left(\frac{z}{r}\right) * F \]

**Force applied in a direction perpendicular to the line (OP)**

A line in 3D space OP as already described makes and angle \( \alpha \), \( \beta \) and \( \gamma \) with respect to x, y and z-axis. A force applied in a direction perpendicular to the line OP. The force \( F_p \) can be resolved into there respective x, y and z components.

Finding the direction cosine of a line that is perpendicular to the line OP can do this. The direction cosine \( (l_p, m_p, n_p) \) can be found using following steps.

The equation of a plane that is perpendicular to the line OP and passes through the point \((x,y,z)\) of the line OP.

\[ l x_p + m y_p + n z_p = r \]

\( x_p, y_p, z_p \) - Any point on the plane perpendicular to line OP
\( l, m, n \) - Direction cosines of the line OP already calculated.
A line on the plane whose equation has been found out, should also be perpendicular to the line OP.

So let
\( x_p = 0, \ y_p = 0 \)

Then,
\( z_p = \frac{r}{n} \quad \text{where} \quad n = \frac{z}{r} \)

Therefore \( z_p = \frac{r^2}{z} \)

Therefore a line that is perpendicular to the given line OP passes through the point \((0,0,\frac{r^2}{z})\) and \((x,y,z)\).

To find the direction cosine of the line passing through the points \((0,0,\frac{r^2}{z})\) and \((x,y,z)\) are

\[
r_p = \sqrt{(x - 0)^2 + (y - 0)^2 + (z - \frac{r^2}{\frac{z}{r}})^2}
\]

Therefore the direction cosines of the line perpendicular to the given line OP are

\[
l_p = \frac{x}{r_p}
\]

\[
m_p = \frac{y}{r_p}
\]

\[
n_p = \frac{(z - \frac{r^2}{\frac{z}{r}})}{r_p}
\]

Therefore the force \( F_p \) applied in a direction perpendicular to line OP can be resolved into there respective components as

\[
F_{px} = l_p \times F_p
\]

\[
F_{py} = m_p \times F_p
\]

\[
F_{pz} = n_p \times F_p
\]
Appendix 7

Extraction of load factor, step-increment number and nodal deformation of a particular node for each increment.

SUBROUTINE HKSMAIN

This is a program to extract the deformed nodal coordinates from the result file for all the increments

INCLUDE 'aba_param.inc'
CHARACTER*80 FNAME
DOUBLE PRECISION VOLUME,TOTVOL,SUBVOL1,SUBVOL2,TOT3VOL
DOUBLE PRECISION RRX1,RRY1,RRZ1,RRX2,RRY2,RRZ2,S3VOL
DOUBLE PRECISION RRX3,RRY3,RRZ3,RRX4,RRY4,RRZ4
DOUBLE PRECISION RORGX11,RORGY11,RORGZ11,RORGX21,RORGY21,RORGZ21
DOUBLE PRECISION RORGX31,RORGY31,RORGZ31,RORGX41,RORGY41,RORGZ41
DOUBLE PRECISION RORGX12,RORGY12,RORGZ12,RORGX22,RORGY22,RORGZ22
DOUBLE PRECISION RORGX32,RORGY32,RORGZ32,RORGX42,RORGY42,RORGZ42
DOUBLE PRECISION RDEFX11,RDEFY11,RDEFZ11,RDEFX21,RDEFY21,RDEFZ21
DOUBLE PRECISION RDEFX31,RDEFY31,RDEFZ31,RDEFX41,RDEFY41,RDEFZ41
DOUBLE PRECISION RDEFX12,RDEFY12,RDEFZ12,RDEFX22,RDEFY22,RDEFZ22
DOUBLE PRECISION RDEFX32,RDEFY32,RDEFZ32,RDEFX42,RDEFY42,RDEFZ42

DIMENSION ARRAY(513),JRRAY(NPRECD,513),RRAY(5,5),LRUNIT(2,1)

DIMENSION R3NOD(300,4),I3NOD(300,4)
EQUIVALENCE (R3NOD(1,1),I3NOD(1,1))
EQUIVALENCE (RRAY(1,1),INRAY(1,1))
EQUIVALENCE (RDEF1(1,1),IDEF1(1,1))
EQUIVALENCE (RDEF2(1,1),IDEF2(1,1))
EQUIVALENCE (ARRAY(1),JRRAY(1,1))
FNAME='column'
NR=1
LRUNIT(1,1)=8
LRUNIT(2,1)=2
LOUTF=0
CALL INITPF(FNAME,NRU,LRUNIT,LOUTF)
JUNIT=8
CALL DBRNU(JUNIT)

this part of the do loop is to extract the number of nodes and number of elements in the model being used
I3NO=1
I4NO=1
IDEFNO1=1
IDEFNO2=1
DO 100 K1=1,99999
   CALL DBFILE(0,ARRAY,JRCD)
   IF (JRCD .NE. 0) GO TO 110
   KEY=JRRAY(1,2)
C EXTRACT THE LOAD FACTOR FOR THE INCREMENT AND STORE IN RSTEP

    IF (KEY .EQ. 2000) THEN
        RSTEP=ARRAY(11)
    END IF

C The following if statement is used to extract the
C nodal deformed coordinates and store them in array IDEF AND RDEF

    IF (KEY .EQ. 101) THEN
        IDEF=JARRAY(1,3)
        RDEFX=ARRAY(4)
        RDEFY=ARRAY(5)
        RDEFZ=ARRAY(6)
        RMAG1 = ((RDEFX*RDEFX)+(RDEFY*RDEFY)+(RDEFZ*RDEFZ))
        RMAG = SQRT(RMAG1)
    END IF

C IF STATEMENT TO CHECK FOR THE PARTICULAR NODE NUMBER

    IF (IDEF .EQ. 25) THEN
        WRITE(*,*)RSTEP,',',RMAG,',',RDEFY
    END IF
    IDEFNO1=IDEFNO1+1
END IF

100 CONTINUE
110 CONTINUE
STOP
END
Appendix 8

Goodier 1933 found a closed form solution for a spherical inclusion inside a medium. The model is shown in the figure. The model is an axis symmetric model of a inclusion inside an infinite medium. This is subjected to a uniform compressive stress \( T \) (N/mm).

The inclusion is of radius \( r \), and material properties \( E_1, \nu_1 \). When the material property of the inclusion and the medium is known then the stresses and deformations at any point of the inclusion and the medium can be found by the following set of equations solved by Goodier. The radial and tangential deformation at any point on the medium is given by the formula \( U_r^b \) and \( U_\theta^b \). There are separate set of equations for finding the radial and tangential deformations for any point inside the inclusion. But at the juncture between the inclusion and the medium, the deformation equations for both medium and the inclusion gives the same results.

\[
U_r^b = -\frac{A}{r^2} - \frac{3B}{r^4} + \frac{5 - 4\nu_b}{1 - 2\nu_b} \frac{2C}{3r^3} \left[ \frac{-9B}{r^3} + \frac{5 - 4\nu_b}{1 - 2\nu_b} \frac{C}{r^2} \right] \cos 2\theta + \frac{Tr}{2E} \left[ (1 - \nu_b) + (1 + \nu_b) \cos 2\theta \right]
\]

\[
U_\theta^b = -\frac{6B}{r^4} + \frac{2C}{r^2} \sin(2\theta) - \frac{Tr}{2E} (1 + \nu_b) \sin 2\theta
\]
Where a - location on the model where the deformation are needed to be found.
Any formulae with a sub-script “b” is related to the medium property and sub-script “t” belongs to the inclusion property.

So from the material properties of the medium and inclusion, and their dimensions, we can calculate the values for the function A, B, C. From this we can arrive at the deformations and stress at any point in the medium including the boundary between the inclusion and the medium. While the deformation and stresses at any point for the inclusion are found using a different set of functions.
Appendix 9

ABAQUS subroutine for extracting the nodal deformed coordinates from the .fil file and calculate the change in volume and hence its bulk modulus.

SUBROUTINE HKSMAIN

This is a program to extract the deformed nodal coordinates from the result file

INCLUDE 'aba_param.inc'

CHARACTER*80 FNAME

DOUBLE PRECISION VOLUME, TOTVOL, SUBVOL1, SUBVOL2, TOT3VOL

DOUBLE PRECISION RRX1, RRY1, RRZ1, RRX2, RRY2, RRZ2, S3VOL

DOUBLE PRECISION RRX3, RRY3, RRZ3, RRX4, RRY4, RRZ4

DOUBLE PRECISION RORGX11, RORGY11, RORGZ11, RORGX21, RORGY21, RORGZ21

DOUBLE PRECISION RORGX31, RORGY31, RORGZ31, RORGX41, RORGY41, RORGZ41

DOUBLE PRECISION RORGX12, RORGY12, RORGZ12, RORGX22, RORGY22, RORGZ22

DOUBLE PRECISION RORGX32, RORGY32, RORGZ32, RORGX42, RORGY42, RORGZ42

DOUBLE PRECISION RDEFX11, RDEFY11, RDEFZ11, RDEFX21, RDEFY21, RDEFZ21

DOUBLE PRECISION RDEFX31, RDEFY31, RDEFZ31, RDEFX41, RDEFY41, RDEFZ41

DOUBLE PRECISION RDEFX12, RDEFY12, RDEFZ12, RDEFX22, RDEFY22, RDEFZ22

DOUBLE PRECISION RDEFX32, RDEFY32, RDEFZ32, RDEFX42, RDEFY42, RDEFZ42

DIMENSION ARRAY(513), JRRAY(NPRECD, 513), RRAY(5, 5), LRUNIT(2, 1)


DIMENSION R3NOD(300, 4), I3NOD(300, 4)

EQUIVALENCE (R3NOD(1, 1), I3NOD(1, 1))

EQUIVALENCE (RNRAY(1, 1), INRAY(1, 1))

EQUIVALENCE (RDEF1(1, 1), IDEF1(1, 1))

EQUIVALENCE (RDEF2(1, 1), IDEF2(1, 1))

EQUIVALENCE (ARRAY(1), JRRAY(1, 1))

FNAME='extrac'

NR=1

LRUNIT(1, 1)=8

LRUNIT(2, 1)=2

LOUTF=0

CALL INITPF(FNAME, NRU, LRUNIT, LOUTF)

JUNIT=8

CALL DBRNU(JUNIT)

c this part of the do loop is to extract the number of nodes and

c number of elements in the model being used

I3NO=1

I4NO=1

IDEFNO1=1

IDEFNO2=1
DO 100 K1=1,99999
CALL DBFILE(0,ARRAY,JRCD)
IF (JRCD .NE. 0) GO TO 110
KEY=JRRAY(1,2)
IF (KEY .EQ. 1900) THEN
  IF (ARRAY(4) .EQ. 'S3R') THEN
    IF (JRRAY(1,3) .GT. 0) THEN
      I3NOD(I3NO,1)=JRRAY(1,3)
      I3NOD(I3NO,2)=JRRAY(1,5)
      I3NOD(I3NO,3)=JRRAY(1,6)
      I3NOD(I3NO,4)=JRRAY(1,7)
    END IF
    I3NO=I3NO+1
  END IF
ENDIF
IF (KEY .EQ. 2000) THEN
  WRITE(*,*) 'THE STEP NO IS',JRRAY(1,8)
  ISTEP=JRRAY(1,8)
ENDIF

  the following if statement is used to extract the
  nodal deformed coordinates and store them in array

  IF (ISTEP .EQ. 1) THEN
  WRITE(*,*) ' THE STEP IS ',ISTEP
  IF (KEY .EQ. 101) THEN
    WRITE(*,1000) JRRAY(1,3),ARRAY(4),ARRAY(5),
    1       ARRAY(6)
    IDEF1(IDEFNO1,1)=JRRAY(1,3)
    RDEF1(IDEFNO1,2)=ARRAY(4)
    IF ((RDEF1(IDEFNO1,2) .GT. -1E-05) .AND.
    1        (RDEF1(IDEFNO1,2) .LT. 1E-05) ) THEN
      RDEF1(IDEFNO1,2) = 0.0
    END IF
    RDEF1(IDEFNO1,3)=ARRAY(5)
    IF ((RDEF1(IDEFNO1,3) .GT. -1E-05) .AND.
    1        (RDEF1(IDEFNO1,3) .LT. 1E-05) ) THEN
      RDEF1(IDEFNO1,3) = 0.0
    END IF
    RDEF1(IDEFNO1,4)=ARRAY(6)
    IF ((RDEF1(IDEFNO1,4) .GT. -1E-05) .AND.
    1        (RDEF1(IDEFNO1,4) .LT. 1E-05) ) THEN
      RDEF1(IDEFNO1,4) = 0.0
    END IF
    IDEFNO1=IDEFNO1+1
  END IF
ENDIF

  IF (ISTEP .EQ. 2) THEN
  WRITE(*,*) ' THE STEP IS ',ISTEP
  IF (KEY .EQ. 101) THEN
    WRITE(*,1000) JRRAY(1,3),ARRAY(4),ARRAY(5),
    1       ARRAY(6)
    IDEF2(IDEFNO2,1)=JRRAY(1,3)
RDEF2(IDEFNO2,2)=ARRAY(4)
RDEF2(IDEFNO2,3)=ARRAY(5)
RDEF2(IDEFNO2,4)=ARRAY(6)
IDEFNO2=IDEFNO2+1
END IF
END IF

IF (KEY .EQ. 1921) THEN
  WRITE(*,*) 'NO IF ELE IS ', JRRAY(1,7)
  IELNO=JRRAY(1,7)
  WRITE(*,*) 'NO IF NODES IS ', JRRAY(1,8)
  INNO=JRRAY(1,8)
END IF

100 CONTINUE
110 CONTINUE
  WRITE(*,*) 'THE NO 3 IS ', I3NO

  the next command is used to rewind the records that were used by the
  previous loop to extract the data

  CALL DBFILE(2,ARRAY,JRCD)
  ILO=1
  INO=1
  IDEFNO=1

  this loop is used to extract the data of element number and \ nodal coordinates and deformed coordinates and store them in
  and ARRAY

  DO 120 K1=1,99999
    CALL DBFILE(0,ARRAY,JRCD)
    IF (JRCD .NE. 0) GO TO 130
    KEY=JRRAY(1,2)
  END IF

  the following if statement is used to extract the element no and
  there corresponding nodes and store them in an array ILRAY

  IF (KEY .EQ. 1900) THEN
    IF (ARRAY(4) .EQ. 'S4R') THEN
      WRITE(*,*) JRRAY(1,3),JRRAY(1,5),JRRAY(1,6),
      JRRAY(1,7),JRRAY(1,8)
      ILRAY(ILO,1)=JRRAY(1,3)
      ILRAY(ILO,2)=JRRAY(1,5)
      ILRAY(ILO,3)=JRRAY(1,6)
      ILRAY(ILO,4)=JRRAY(1,7)
      ILRAY(ILO,5)=JRRAY(1,8)
      ILO=ILO+1
      I4NO=I4NO+1
    END IF
  END IF

  the following IF statement is used to extract the node numbers and
  there coordinates and

  NOTE : NODE NUMBERS ARE STORED IN "INRAY"
  NOTE : NODAL COORDINATES ARE STORED IN "RNRAY"

  IF (KEY .EQ. 1901) THEN
WRITE(*,*) JRRAY(1,3),ARRAY(4),ARRAY(5),
1 ARRAY(6)
    INRAY(INO,1)=JRRAY(1,3)
    RNRAY(INO,2)=ARRAY(4)
C IF ((RNRAY(INO,2) .GT. -1E-04) .OR.
C 1 (RNRAY(INO,2) .LT. 1E-04) ) THEN
C RNRAY(INO,2) = 0.0
C END IF

RNRAY(INO,3)=ARRAY(5)
C IF ((RNRAY(INO,3) .GT. -1E-04) .OR.
C 1 (RNRAY(INO,3) .LT. 1E-04) ) THEN
C RNRAY(INO,2) = 0.0
C END IF

RNRAY(INO,4)=ARRAY(6)
C IF ((RNRAY(INO,4) .GT. -1E-04) .OR.
C 1 (RNRAY(INO,4) .LT. 1E-04) ) THEN
C RNRAY(INO,2) = 0.0
C END IF

INO=INO+1
END IF

the following if statement is used to extract the
nodal deformed coordinates and store them in array

C IF (KEY .EQ. 101) THEN
C WRITE(*,*) JRRAY(1,3),ARRAY(4),ARRAY(5),
C 1 ARRAY(6)
C IDEFRAY(IDEFNO,1)=JRRAY(1,3)
C RDEFRAY(IDEFNO,2)=ARRAY(4)
C RDEFRAY(IDEFNO,3)=ARRAY(5)
C RDEFRAY(IDEFNO,4)=ARRAY(6)
C IDEFNO=IDEFNO+1
C END IF
120 CONTINUE
130 CONTINUE

WRITE(*,*) ' THE NO OF 4 IS ', I4NO

C ***************************************************************
C THE VOLUME FOR 3 NODED ELEMENTS STARTS HERE
C***************************************************************
TOT3VOL=0
DO 240 K2=1,I3NO-1
    WRITE(*,*) I3NOD(K2,1),I3NOD(K2,2),I3NOD(K2,3),
1       I3NOD(K2,4)
C this prints orginal nodes it is 141 series 1st node of element
DO 241 K3=1,INNO
    IF (INRAY(K3,1) .EQ. I3NOD(K2,2)) THEN
WRITE(*,1000) INRAY(K3,1), RNRAY(K3,2),
1 RNRAY(K3,3), RNRAY(K3,4)
RORGX11=RNRAY(K3,2)
RORGY11=RNRAY(K3,3)
RORGZ11=RNRAY(K3,4)
END IF
241 CONTINUE

C this prints the deformed coordinates
DO 251 K3=1,INNO
IF (IDEF1(K3,1) .EQ. I3NOD(K2,2)) THEN
WRITE(*,1000) IDEF1(K3,1), RDEF1(K3,2),
1 RDEF1(K3,3), RDEF1(K3,4)
RDEFX11=RDEF1(K3,2)
RDEFY11=RDEF1(K3,3)
RDEFZ11=RDEF1(K3,4)
END IF
251 CONTINUE

C this prints original nodes it is 141 series 2ed node of element
DO 242 K3=1,INNO
IF (INRAY(K3,1) .EQ. I3NOD(K2,3)) THEN
WRITE(*,1000) INRAY(K3,1), RNRAY(K3,2),
1 RNRAY(K3,3), RNRAY(K3,4)
RORGX21=RNRAY(K3,2)
RORGY21=RNRAY(K3,3)
RORGZ21=RNRAY(K3,4)
END IF
242 CONTINUE

C this prints the deformed coordinates
DO 252 K3=1,INNO
IF (IDEF1(K3,1) .EQ. I3NOD(K2,3)) THEN
WRITE(*,1000) IDEF1(K3,1), RDEF1(K3,2),
1 RDEF1(K3,3), RDEF1(K3,4)
RDEFX21=RDEF1(K3,2)
RDEFY21=RDEF1(K3,3)
RDEFZ21=RDEF1(K3,4)
END IF
252 CONTINUE

C this prints original nodes it is 141 series 3ed node of element
DO 243 K3=1,INNO
IF (INRAY(K3,1) .EQ. I3NOD(K2,4)) THEN
WRITE(*,1000) INRAY(K3,1), RNRAY(K3,2),
1 RNRAY(K3,3), RNRAY(K3,4)
RORGX31=RNRAY(K3,2)
RORGY31=RNRAY(K3,3)
RORGZ31=RNRAY(K3,4)
END IF
243 CONTINUE

C this prints the deformed coordinates
DO 253 K3=1,INNO
IF (IDEF1(K3,1) .EQ. I3NOD(K2,4)) THEN
  WRITE(*,1000) IDEF1(K3,1), RDEF1(K3,2),
  RDEF1(K3,3), RDEF1(K3,4)
RDEFX31=RDEF1(K3,2)
RDEFY31=RDEF1(K3,3)
RDEFZ31=RDEF1(K3,4)
END IF

WRITE(*,*) '-------------------------------'
C     THE VOLUME CALCULATION STARTS HERE

RRX1= RORGX11+RDEFX11
RRY1=RORGY11+RDEFY11
RRZ1=RORGZ11+RDEFZ11
RRX2=RORGX21+RDEFX21
RRY2=RORGY21+RDEFY21
RRZ2=RORGZ21+RDEFZ21
RRX3=RORGX31+RDEFX31
RRY3=RORGY31+RDEFY31
RRZ3=RORGZ31+RDEFZ31
RRX4=RORGX41+RDEFX41
RRY4=RORGY41+RDEFY41
RRZ4=RORGZ41+RDEFZ41

WRITE(*,*) '---------------------------------'
SUBVOL1=AVOLM(RRX1,RRY1,RRZ1,RRX2,RRY2,RRZ2,
1        RRX3,RRY3,RRZ3)
IF (SUBVOL1 .LT. 0.0) THEN
  SUBVOL1= -1*SUBVOL1
END IF
WRITE(*,*) 'THE VOLUME 1 IS', SUBVOL1
TOT3VOL=TOT3VOL+SUBVOL1
SUBVOL1=0

WRITE(*,*) 'FURTHER IS FOR 4 NODED ELEMENTS'

C     **************************************************
C     TO PRINT THE ELEMENTS THAT IS STORED IN THE ARRAY
C     ***************************************************

TOTVOL=0
DO 140 K2=1,I4NO-1
  WRITE(*,*) ILRAY(K2,1),ILRAY(K2,2),ILRAY(K2,3),
  ILRAY(K2,4),ILRAY(K2,5)
140 CONTINUE

DO 141 K3=1,INNO
  IF (INRAY(K3,1) .EQ. ILRAY(K2,2)) THEN
    WRITE(*,1000) INRAY(K3,1), RNRAY(K3,2),
    RNRAY(K3,3), RNRAY(K3,4)
141 CONTINUE
RORGX11=RNRAY(K3,2)
RORGY11=RNRAY(K3,3)
RORGZ11=RNRAY(K3,4)
END IF
141 CONTINUE
c this prints the "DEFORMED" nodal coordinates 1st node of the element
DO 151 K3=1,INNO
  IF (IDEF1(K3,1) .EQ. ILRAY(K2,2)) THEN
    WRITE(*,1000) IDEF1(K3,1), RDEF1(K3,2), RDEF1(K3,3), RDEF1(K3,4)
    RDEFX11=RDEF1(K3,2)
    RORGY11=RDEF1(K3,3)
    RORGZ11=RDEF1(K3,4)
  END IF
151 CONTINUE
c this prints orginal nodes it is 141 series 2ed node of element
DO 142 K3=1,INNO
  IF (INRAY(K3,1) .EQ. ILRAY(K2,3)) THEN
    WRITE(*,1000) INRAY(K3,1), RNRAY(K3,2), RNRAY(K3,3), RNRAY(K3,4)
    RORGX21=RNRAY(K3,2)
    RORGY21=RNRAY(K3,3)
    RORGZ21=RNRAY(K3,4)
  END IF
142 CONTINUE
c this prints the "DEFORMED" nodal coordinates 2ed node of the element
DO 152 K3=1,INNO
  IF (IDEF1(K3,1) .EQ. ILRAY(K2,3)) THEN
    WRITE(*,1000) IDEF1(K3,1), RDEF1(K3,2), RDEF1(K3,3), RDEF1(K3,4)
    RDEFX21=RDEF1(K3,2)
    RDEFY21=RDEF1(K3,3)
    RDEFZ21=RDEF1(K3,4)
  END IF
152 CONTINUE
c this prints orginal nodes it is 141 series 3ed node of element
DO 143 K3=1,INNO
  IF (INRAY(K3,1) .EQ. ILRAY(K2,4)) THEN
    WRITE(*,1000) INRAY(K3,1), RNRAY(K3,2), RNRAY(K3,3), RNRAY(K3,4)
    RORGX31=RNRAY(K3,2)
    RORGY31=RNRAY(K3,3)
    RORGZ31=RNRAY(K3,4)
  END IF
143 CONTINUE
c this prints the "DEFORMED" nodal coordinates 3ed node of the element
DO 153 K3=1,INNO
   IF (IDEF1(K3,1) .EQ. ILRAY(K2,4)) THEN
      WRITE(*,1000) IDEF1(K3,1), RDEF1(K3,2),
      1               RDEF1(K3,3),RDEF1(K3,4)
      RDEFX31=RDEF1(K3,2)
      RDEFY31=RDEF1(K3,3)
      RDEFZ31=RDEF1(K3,4)
   END IF
153     CONTINUE

C     this prints orginal nodes it is 141 series 4th node of element

DO 144 K3=1,INNO
   IF (INRAY(K3,1) .EQ. ILRAY(K2,5)) THEN
      WRITE(*,1000) INRAY(K3,1), RNRAY(K3,2),
      1              RNRAY(K3,3),RNRAY(K3,4)
      RORGX41=RNRAY(K3,2)
      RORGY41=RNRAY(K3,3)
      RORGZ41=RNRAY(K3,4)
   END IF
144     CONTINUE

C     this prints the "DEFORMED" nodal coordinates 4TH node of the element

DO 154 K3=1,INNO
   IF (IDEF1(K3,1) .EQ. ILRAY(K2,5)) THEN
      WRITE(*,1000) IDEF1(K3,1), RDEF1(K3,2),
      1               RDEF1(K3,3),RDEF1(K3,4)
      RDEFX41=RDEF1(K3,2)
      RDEFY41=RDEF1(K3,3)
      RDEFZ41=RDEF1(K3,4)
   END IF
154     CONTINUE

WRITE(*,*) '-------------------------------'
RRX1= RORGX11+RDEFX11
RRY1=RORGY11+RDEFY11
RRZ1=RORGZ11+RDEFZ11
RRX2=RORGX21+RDEFX21
RRY2=RORGY21+RDEFY21
RRZ2=RORGZ21+RDEFZ21
RRX3=RORGX31+RDEFX31
RRY3=RORGY31+RDEFY31
RRZ3=RORGZ31+RDEFZ31
RRX4=RORGX41+RDEFX41
RRY4=RORGY41+RDEFY41
RRZ4=RORGZ41+RDEFZ41

WRITE(*,*) '---------------------------------

SUBVOL1=AVOLM(RRX1,RRY1,RRZ1,RRX2,RRY2,RRZ2,
1        RRX3,RRY3,RRZ3)
IF (SUBVOL1 .LT. 0.0) THEN
   SUBVOL1= -1*SUBVOL1
END IF
WRITE(*,*) 'THE VOLUME 1 IS', SUBVOL1

SUBVOL2=AVOLM(RRX1,RRY1,RRZ1,RRX3,RRY3,RRZ3,
RRX4,RRY4,RRZ4)
IF (SUBVOL2 .LT. 0.0) THEN
  SUBVOL2= -1*SUBVOL2
END IF
WRITE(*,*) 'THE VOLUME 2 IS', SUBVOL2

VOLUME=SUBVOL1+SUBVOL2
TOTVOL=TOTVOL+VOLUME
VOLUME=0

140 CONTINUE

WRITE(*,*) ' THE 3NODED VOLUME IS', TOT3VOL
WRITE(*,*) ' THE 4NODED VOLUME IS', TOTVOL
WRITE(*,*) '-----------------------------------------'
WRITE(*,*) ' THE TOTAL VOLUME IS FOR STEP 1 IS', TOT3VOL+TOTVOL
WRITE(*,*)'-----------------------------------------'

STOP
1000 FORMAT(I,E14.4,E14.4,E14.4)
2000 FORMAT(A8)
END

c********************************************
c     the function to calculate the volume starts here
c*********************************************

DOUBLE PRECISION FUNCTION AVOLM(X1,Y1,Z1,X2,Y2,Z2,
1   X3,Y3,Z3)
C     THE FOLLOWING STEP CALLS THE SUBROUTINE TO
C     FIND THE DETERMINANTS FOR THE GIVEN VALUES INPUT
DOUBLE PRECISION X1,Y1,Z1,X2,Y2,Z2,X3,Y3,Z3
DOUBLE PRECISION A1,B1,C1,ASUM,AREA,ALENG
DOUBLE PRECISION A2,B2,C2,D2
WRITE(*,*) 'A IS ',A1
A1=(Y1*(Z2-Z3))-(Z1*(Y2-Y3))+
  ((Y2*Z3)-(Y3*Z2))
WRITE(*,*) 'A ALSO IS', A1
THE FOLLOWING STEP CALLS THE SUBROUTINE TO FIND THE DETERMINANTS FOR THE GIVEN VALUES INPUT

\[ B = (Z1 \times (X2 - X3)) - (X1 \times (Z2 - Z3)) + (Z2 \times X3) - (Z3 \times X2) \]

THE FOLLOWING STEP CALLS THE SUBROUTINE TO FIND THE DETERMINANTS FOR THE GIVEN VALUES

\[ C1 = A(X1, Y1, X2, Y2, X3, Y3) \]
\[ C1 = (X1 \times (Y2 - Y3)) - (Y1 \times (X2 - X3)) + (X2 \times Y3) - (X3 \times Y2) \]

\[ \text{ASUM} = (A1 \times A1) + (B1 \times B1) + (C1 \times C1) \]
\[ \text{AREA} = 0.5 \times \sqrt{\text{ASUM}} \]

TO FIND THE HEIGHT FROM A POINT TO THE BASE

\[ \text{A2} = ((Y2 - Y1) \times (Z3 - Z1)) - ((Y3 - Y1) \times (Z2 - Z1)) \]
\[ \text{A1} = -1 \times X1 \times (((Y2 - Y1) \times (Z3 - Z1)) - ((Y3 - Y1) \times (Z2 - Z1))) \]
\[ B = -1 \times ((X2 - X1) \times (Z3 - Z1)) - ((X3 - X1) \times (Z2 - Z1)) \]
\[ B1 = Y1 \times (((X2 - X1) \times (Z3 - Z1)) - ((X3 - X1) \times (Z2 - Z1))) \]
\[ C = ((X2 - X1) \times (Y3 - Y1)) - ((X3 - X1) \times (Y2 - Y1)) \]
\[ C1 = -1 \times Z1 \times (((X2 - X1) \times (Y3 - Y1)) - ((X3 - X1) \times (Y2 - Y1))) \]
\[ D = A1 + B1 + C1 \]
\[ \text{ALENG} = \frac{(A2 \times X0) + (B \times Y0) + (C \times Z0) + D}{\sqrt{(A2 \times A2) + (B \times B) + (C \times C)}} \]
\[ \text{AVOLM} = \frac{(\text{AREA} \times \text{ALENG})}{3} \]
DOUBLE PRECISION FUNCTION DIST(AX1,AX2,AX3,BX1,BX2,BX3)
DOUBLE PRECISION AX1,AX2,BX1,BX2,BX3,AX3

WRITE(*,*), AX1,AX2,AX3,BX1,BX2,BX3
DIST = ((AX2-AX1)*(BX3-BX1))-((BX2-BX1)*(AX3-AX1))
END